RESEARCH DOSSIER

MARCO RUBIO

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EXECUTIVE SYNOPSIS

DOSSIER NOTES

In preparing this background report, we undertook an examination of all readily available and relevant electronic and online records, several hundred Nexis and news articles, dozens of active and archived web pages, and several dozen public records from Nexis and the resources of various federal, state, and municipal government offices. The results of our analysis are contained below.

Typographical Note: There are a number of articles quoted in this report that contain typographical errors. These are from the original text of the article and have not been corrected when being quoted directly.

TOP HITS

Public Records

Voting History

- Since 1995, Rubio has failed to vote in at least five elections including the 2020 presidential preference primary election.

Foreclosure

- In June 2010, Rubio and several others were named in a lis pendens and foreclosure complaint.
    - In June 2010, the case was dismissed after the property was sold or the outstanding debts were paid.

Recent Profressional Ties

Former Lobbying Firm Foreign Ties

- In March 2022, Rubio's former employer, Becker & Poliakoff disclosed they were lobbying on behalf of Qatar.

Ties To Trump Critics, Journalists, And Democrats

- On his 2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Rubio revealed that he received $30,000 from the Javelin Group, which is a literary agent group co-founded by Matt Latimer.
    - In 2019, Latimer represented then-anonymous Miles Taylor, who published "A Warning," which sought to undermine the Trump Administration and was highly critical of Trump and his advisors.
        - In 2019, the Javelin Group promoted the book on Twitter.

- The Javelin Group has worked with a variety of journalists and Democrats, including outspoken Trump critic Tim Alberta, whose book appeared on Barack Obama's favorite reads of the year.
    - The Javelin Group tweeted they agreed with President Obama about his recommendation of the book.
- The Javelin Group has also worked with Democrats including far-left Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison.

Anti-Trump Record

Overall

- Media narrative: Rubio's evolution on Trump – outspoken critic to hopeful Vice President.
    - Rubio was an outspoken opponent of Trump "before he ended up grudgingly backing Trump in 2016, more enthusiastically backing him in 2020, and even more enthusiastically backing him in 2024—endorsing him in January over their home state Governor, Ron DeSantis, the day before the Iowa Caucus".
    - Recently, in March 2024, Rubio claimed he would be honored to serve as Vice President.
    - Rubio initially rejected being Trump's Vice President but has since flip-flopped.

2016 Primary

- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio offered harsh, vocal criticisms against Trump and promoted the Never Trump movement.
    - 2016: "Rubio has called Trump a 'con man' seeking to perpetrate 'the biggest scam in American political history' on American voters, and attacked him for his failed businesses, allegedly fraudulent real-estate courses and his lack of policy proposals…".
    - On social media, Rubio repeatedly promoted the never Trump movement during the 2016 GOP primary.
- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio levied allegations that Trump destroys America and promotes violence.
    - Video: In a march 2016 press conference, Rubio condemns Trump's violent rhetoric for feeding into a political culture that will result in America being "ripped apart at the seams".
    - Video: In a march 2016 press conference, Rubio claimed Trump's movement and rhetoric was a "frightening, grotesque and disturbing development in American politics".

  - Video: In March 2016, Rubio blames Trump for political violence and encouraging it with his lack of leadership.
  - Video: In 2016, Rubio broadly criticizes Trumpism as an empty reaction to anger and frustration in America and contends Trump does not actually represent real leadership.
  - Video: In March 2016, Rubio criticizes Trump's rhetoric promoting violence as "disastrous" and accused him of promoting hate, anger, and frustration.
  - On his 2016 campaign site, Rubio promoted his claims that Trump was "ripping our country apart" and urged his supporters to "Stop Donald Trump".

- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio levied allegations that Trump destroys the Republican Party and conservative movement.
  - Video: In 2016, Rubio contended Trump was destroying the Republican Party and the conservative movement.
  - On social media, Rubio offered several other criticisms regarding Trump's alleged harms for the conservative movement.

- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio levied allegations that Trump is dangerous for the world.
  - In 2016, Rubio contended that Trump was dangerous and could not be trusted with America's nuclear codes – a position he continued to hold even after dropping out of the 2016 GOP primary.
  - On social media, Rubio offered several other criticisms regarding Trump's alleged danger for the world.

- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio promoted criticisms of Trump's personal characteristics (ad hominem attacks).
  - During the 2016 campaign, Rubio made "fun of Trump's tan, his hair and ultimately the size of his hands — a veiled jab at Trump's manhood".
  - Rubio suggested Trump once wet his pants after debating him.

- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio promoted criticisms of Trump's character and business record.
  - In 2016, Rubio did not disavow Trump after his access Hollywood comments but noted "I ran against Donald Trump. And while I respect that voters chose him as the GOP nominee, I have never hesitated to oppose his policies I disagree with. And I have consistently rejected his offensive rhetoric and behavior. I disagree with him on many things…".

  - In 2016, Rubio alleged Trump was a "con artist" who "has spent his entire career sticking it to the little guy".
  - Video: Rubio: "Donald j. Trump is a political con man ... He's trying to take over the party of Reagan and the conservative movement – we can't let that happen".
  - Video: Rubio, on Trump: "he's not a conservative. But more importantly, he's a con".
  - Video: Rubio: "if Donald J. Trump is president, he's not going to make America great. He's going to make America broke".
  - Rubio: "Donald Trump has been perhaps the most vulgar – no i don't think perhaps – the most vulgar person to ever aspire to the presidency…".
  - In 2016, "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz released income and federal tax data Saturday as part of an attempt to pressure Donald Trump, the Republican presidential front-runner, to do the same".
  - On social media, Rubio repeatedly criticized Trump for his record on Trump university and being a fraud.

- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio promoted criticisms of Trump's rhetoric on race and immigration.
  - In 2015, Rubio condemned Trump's comments on Mexican immigrants noting "Trump's comments are not just offensive and inaccurate, but also divisive".
  - Video: in 2016, Rubio condemned Trump for failing to firmly disavow the KKK and contended it made him unelectable.
  - On social media, Rubio repeatedly criticized Trump for being a hypocrite on immigration.
- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio promoted criticisms of Trump's rhetoric on terrorism and the military.
  - Video: in 2015, Rubio criticized Trump's criticism of Bush over 9/11 and claimed Trump "doesn't have a fundamental understanding of what caused 9/11".
  - Rubio, in 2015: "America's POWs deserve much better than to have their service questioned by the offensive rantings of Donald Trump".
- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio promoted criticisms of Trump's record on workers.
  - Rubio's 2016 campaign site claimed "Donald Trump puts American workers last"; the site promoted opposition research attacking Trump's record on labor and his companies' various worker related controversies.
  - Video: Rubio: "Trump tower was built by illegal immigrants from Poland".

- Rubio was known to have skipped the 2016 Republican National Convention despite endorsing Trump.
    - In May 2016, Rubio "told reporters he'll not only vote for Trump, he'd be willing to speak on his behalf at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland".
    - Previously, Rubio had been reluctant to endorse Trump in April 2016 and had been signaling his support for Ted Cruz after dropping out.
    - In July 2016, Rubio noted he would not be attending the 2016 RNC citing campaign events.
- During the 2016 campaign, Rubio promoted a slew of additional criticisms of Trump.
    - In 2015, "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio bashed GOP front-runner Donald Trump a day after the real estate mogul called the use of eminent domain 'wonderful'".
    - In January 2016, Rubio criticized Trump as a distraction and "entertaining sideshow" for skipping a debate.
    - On social media, Rubio called several times for voters to "Stop Trump".
- During the 2016 campaign, Trump was known to promote criticisms against Rubio.
    - Trump, in 2016: "I will be using Facebook and twitter to expose dishonest lightweight Senator Marco Rubio. A record no-show in Senate, he is scamming Florida".
    - In 2016, Trump "laced into Rubio as 'even worse' than Ted Cruz, calling the Florida Senator 'such a scoundrel'".
    - Trump: "lightweight Marco Rubio was working hard last night. The problem is, he is a choker, and once a choker, always a choker! Mr. Meltdown".
    - Video: in 2016, Trump mocked Rubio's widely panned SOTU response during which Rubio awkwardly drank water.
    - Video: in 2016, Trump mocked Rubio as "little Marco".
    - Video: in 2016, Trump mocked Rubio as a "choke artist".

Post-2016 Primary / Trump Rhetoric

- Following the 2016 primary, Rubio still expressed criticism of Trump's rhetoric on race.
    - In June 2016, Rubio criticized Trump's racial attacks against Judge Gonzalo Curiel.
    - In August 2016, Rubio criticized Trump's attacks against Gold Star Parent Khizr Khan.

  - In 2017, Rubio was one of the Senators critical of Trump's rhetoric in the aftermath of Charlottesville.
  - In 2019, Rubio criticized Trump's rallying cry of "send her back" against Ilhan Omar and contended "what he said was wrong".

- Following the 2016 primary, Rubio still expressed criticism of Trump's rhetoric on women.
  - Rubio, in October 2016, after the access Hollywood comments: "Donald's comments were vulgar, egregious & impossible to justify. No one should ever talk about any woman in those terms, even in private".
  - In the aftermath of the 2020 election, despite initially supporting Trump's challenges, Rubio shifted his rhetoric and "mostly stopped talking about the election".
  - On January 6th, 2021, during the U.S. Capitol Protests, Rubio attacked the patriotism of protestors and described the event as "anti-American anarchy".
  - Video: On January 6, 2021, Rubio condemns the U.S. Capitol protests as "one of the saddest days in our modern history, probably in our history" and deems it "inexcusable".
  - Video: In January 2021, Rubio criticizes stop the steal efforts for convincing people that the election could be overturned and condemns January 6th protestors as a "national embarrassment".
  - Rubio: "Some of them unfortunately were adherence to a conspiracy theory and others got caught up in the moment. The result was a national embarrassment".
  - Video: Later in January 2021, Rubio continued to condemn the January 6th protests as "unpatriotic," "disgusting" and ran "county to everything we stand for".
  - Rubio has continued to condemn January 6th protestors and support their prosecution; he has not offered his support for Trump's call to pardon them.

2020 Election

- Rubio voted to certify the 2020 election results.
  - In January 2021, Rubio voted to certify the 2020 election results for Arizona and Pennsylvania.
  - Rubio has described voting against certification of the 2020 election results "a terrible idea".
  - Video: in January 2021, on the Senate floor, Rubio condemns Senators who still are seeking to block certification of the 2020 election results as a "terrible idea".

- Rubio promoted criticism of Trump's claims on vice presidential power concerning the 2020 election certification.
    - In 2022, Rubio "rejected a claim by former President Donald Trump that former vice president mike pence had the power to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election".

Criticisms Of Trump's Policies And Presidency

- During Trump's presidency, Rubio expressed support for and was involved in the oversight of the Trump-Russia investigations.
    - "After the 2016 election, Rubio ultimately became chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, and oversaw the panel when it investigated the connections between the Trump campaign and its Russian benefactors. The Rubio-led investigation ultimately uncovered, among other things, a "direct tie between senior Trump campaign officials and the Russian intelligence services".
    - In 2017, Rubio backed Robert Mueller's investigation and contended "that he believes the prosecutor will carry out his investigation into whether the Trump campaign colluded with Russia during the 2016 Presidential Campaign "in a fair and balanced way"".
    - In 2018, Rubio defended the FBI's investigation regarding possible ties between Trump campaign officials and Russia.
    - Rubio, in 2019: "I've been very clear from the very beginning the best thing for the country and for the president was for the Mueller probe to move forward unimpeded".
- Following Trump's presidency, Rubio appears to have criticized Trump's handling of classified documents.
    - Video: in 2022, Rubio couched his defense of Trump's handling of classified documents noting "the documents that were at Mar-A-Lago by all accounts were turned over. Look if the process wasn't followed then there needs to be something that happens about that".
    - In 2023, Rubio was critical of Trump storing documents at Mar-A-Lago noting they "should not have been there" but was more critical of an indictment having been brought against Trump in the first place.
- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's border security policies.
    - In 2019, Rubio criticized Trump's efforts to declare a national emergency to build his proposed southern border wall noting "we have a crisis at our southern border, but no crisis justifies violating the constitution".
- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's posture towards China.

  - In 2018, Rubio issued a series of social media posts contending the Trump administration was "losing" in its negotiations with China.
  - In 2018, Rubio criticized Trump for reportedly considering backing away from limits on Chinese investments.
  - In 2019, Rubio repeatedly criticized Trump's apparent easing of restrictions on Huawei and noted that to follow through with such a policy would be a "catastrophic mistake".

- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's posture towards NATO.
  - In 2016, Rubio disagreed "with Donald Trump's suggestion that the united states shouldn't automatically come to the defense of fellow NATO members if they are attacked".
  - In 2019, Rubio joined a bipartisan group of Senators sponsoring legislation "that would prevent the president from withdrawing from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) without Senate approval".
- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's posture towards Russia.
  - In 2017, Rubio criticized Trump's suggestion to pair with Russia on cybersecurity measures.
  - In 2018, Rubio underscored that Putin interfered in the 2016 election, developed a preference for Trump, and should be punished for having done so.
  - In 2018, Rubio did not criticize Trump for meeting with Putin in Finland but was critical of how the meeting had left "the impression that my intelligence community says one thing, Putin says another, I'm siding with Putin, and that was a bad impression to leave behind".
  - In 2018, Rubio was critical of Trump's rhetoric for not reflecting the threat posed by Russia and Putin but did not the Trump administration's policies did so.
  - In 2019, Rubio was among the Senators to vote "to advance legislation blocking President Trump's plan to lift sanctions against three Russian companies despite an eleventh-hour effort by the administration to kill the bill".
  - In 2022, Rubio said it was "unfortunate" Trump was using language in seeming praise of Putin and called on Trump to be more "careful" with his wording.
- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's posture towards North Korea.
  - In 2019, Rubio "said President Donald Trump's tweet that he would reverse sanctions on North Korea that had just been imposed by the treasury department could cause people to second-guess future announcements of sanctions".

  - In 2019, Rubio "also said he's skeptical that ongoing negotiations between Trump and North Korean Dictator Kim Jong Un would lead the Asian country to give up its nuclear weapons".

- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's posture towards Syria.
  - In 2019, Rubio criticized Trump's decision to withdraw troops for Northeast Syria noting "if reports about us retreat in #Syria are accurate, the Trump administration has made a grave mistake that will have implications far beyond Syria".
  - In 2018, Rubio was among the Senators to "a letter to president Trump… asking him to reconsider his decision to begin withdrawing troops from Syria".
- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's economic policy concerning tariffs.
  - In 2018, Rubio argued Trump "should drop tariff fight with our allies in Europe, Asia and Latin America. We can work out our differences with them later".
- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's economic policy concerning tax reform.
  - "Rubio voted for the GOP tax law last year. But some Republicans believe he complicated the party's vigorous defense of the measure with recent comments to the economist magazine about corporations".
- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's law and order policy concerning the 'first step act'.
  - In 2018, "Sen. Marco Rubio was one of just 12 Senators to vote against the First Step Act, a bipartisan criminal justice bill that overwhelmingly passed the Senate on Tuesday night".
- Rubio has previously criticized Trump's handling of covid.
  - Video: in 2020, Rubio was critical of Trump's handling of covid and his push to reopen by easter noting "i don't think we can solely make this decision on the basis of economics because you can't have a growing economy if you've got a significant percentage of your population dying and your hospitals aren't working".

Criticism Of MAGA

- Rubio has previously criticized MAGA-aligned Republicans.
  - In 2021, Rubio implicitly criticized Marjorie Taylor-Greene noting "reporting that a politician believes in/flirts with conspiracy theories is legit, but the attention they get should be proportional to their ability to influence actual public policy don't make them famous, help them raise money or elevate conspiracy theories".
  - "While Rubio doesn't identify the subject of his entreaty, it's not hard to suss out".

- Video: In January 2024, Rubio blames the failure of the 2024 Senate border security measure on Biden essentially out-maneuvering "the crazy Republican MAGA people in the house…".

RINO Ties

- Rubio has deep ties to the Republican establishment and "GOP elites".
  - Rubio is known to have previously led "GOP elites" on immigration and Hispanic issues.
  - Rubio has long standing ties to Jeb Bush – a man Rubio once considered his mentor.
  - Rubio has previously expressed praise for George W. Bush and Dick Cheney.
  - Rubio was noted to have been vetted as a potential running mate for never-Trumper Mitt Romney.
  - Rubio is known to have been boosted by moderate GOP mega donor Paul Singer.
  - Rubio has previously been supported by the organization 'Club For Growth' – an organization that has antagonized Trump at times.

Joe Biden And Democrats

- In January 2021, Rubio acknowledged Joe Biden as President and praised his character.
  - Video: On inauguration day, in January 2021, Rubio acknowledges Biden as "our new President" and calls him a "man of tremendous empathy"; Rubio notes that he prays god will bless Biden with health, strength, and wisdom.
  - Rubio, in January 2021: "Joe Biden is now our President, a position held by only 44 other Americans in history. It is the single most powerful job in the world, and the most serious challenge he will face is leading a bitterly divided country".
- Rubio at times has defended democrats.
  - In 2010, Rubio was reported by the Miami New Times as having pushed back against a voter's contention that, regarding the deepwater horizon disaster, the Obama Administration was "intentionally dragging their feet on this disaster for its own political agenda".
  - Rubio has previously defended the rights of 'Squad Members'.
  - As speaker of the Florida house, Rubio was known to boost Florida State Democratic Legislators.

Undermining Of The 'America First' Agenda (Policy)

Trade / China

- Rubio initially supported 'free trade' before flip-flopping.
    - Video: in 2011, Rubio noted "I think one of the great things that will help us grow our economy in the years to come is further free trade"; Rubio further noted his support for free trade agreements with South Korea, Panama, and Colombia.
    - In 2015, Club For Growth President David Mcintosh noted Rubio "has a consistent record of supporting policies like free trade...".
    - Recently, in his 2023 book 'Decades Of Decadence,' Rubio now repudiates and condemns the globalist free trade regime he once supported.
- Rubio initially supported the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) before flip-flopping.
    - In 2015, Rubio strongly backed the TPP declaring it "will further our strategic goals in Asia and increase prosperity at home. It will advance economic liberty and unleash free-market forces in the world's most dynamic region".
    - Rubio, in 2015: "as President, I would respond not through aggressive retaliation, which would hurt the U.S. as much as China, but by greater commitment and firmer insistence on free markets and free trade. This means immediately moving forward with the Trans-Pacific Partnership and other trade agreements".
    - By September 2016, Rubio backed off his explicit support for TPP but noted that he would still "love to have a free trade agreement with the Asia-Pacific region".
- Rubio supported trade promotion authority during the Obama Administration.
    - Rubio, in 2015: "concluding TPP will require the passage of trade promotion authority by the Congress".
    - In May 2015, Rubio noted it was "more important than ever that Congress give the President Trade Promotion Authority so that he can finalize the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership".
    - In June 2015, Breitbart noted that Rubio cast the deciding vote in favor of TPA – allowing for fast-tracking of free trade deals such as TPP.
- Rubio has previously supported trade with China.
    - As late as 2015, Rubio continued to laud trading opportunities with China noting "despite the challenges China poses to the U.S., we must never forget that the opportunities are even greater. The ability to trade, travel and innovate through cooperation and competition is greater than it has ever been".

- In a January 2016 GOP primary debate, Rubio criticized Trump's proposal to impose tariffs on China arguing the true cost of the tariff would be shouldered by American consumers.

Immigration

- Rubio controversially supported an amnesty/pathway to citizenship immigration bill before flip-flopping.
- Rubio, at times, appears to have supported the 'DREAM Act'.
- Rubio previously supported granting in-state tuition benefits to undocumented students.
- In the state legislature, Rubio spearheaded an effort stop a bill that would have required college to submit visa information of foreign students.
- In the state legislature, Rubio killed several anti-illegal immigration bills.
- Rubio's family is known to support for illegal immigrants.
- Rubio opposes the repeal of birthright citizenship.
- Rubio asked the Trump administration to grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Venezuelan citizens in the U.S.
- Rubio previously criticized hardline conservative immigration rhetoric.
- Rubio does not support a mass deportation of illegal immigrants.
- In 2024, Rubio blamed the lack of a Congressional border security measure on 'crazy… MAGA people'.

Controversial Foreign Policy And Defense Agenda

- Rubio appears to have generally postured as a neocon and interventionist.
- Rubio defended and argued in favor of the Iraq war.
- Rubio generally supported military intervention in Syria.
- Rubio has indicated he supports potential military intervention in Iran.
- Rubio appeared to support potential military intervention in Libya.
- Media: Rubio "is the rare Republican who publicly defends U.S. foreign aid spending".
- Rubio has underscored his support for NATO and willingness for the U.S. to go to war on behalf of NATO.
- Rubio has backed proposals to increase defense spending.

Additional Questionable Conservatism (Policy)

Fiscal And Economic

- Rubio previously indicated support for a national sales tax / 'Fair Tax'.
- Rubio supported increasing the Florida State Sales Tax (in exchange for property tax elimination).
- Rubio has been generally critical of entitlement programs and has called for cuts to Medicare and Social Security.
- Rubio often supported Paul Ryan's Medicare slashing proposals.
- Rubio supported reforming Medicare into a premium support system.
- Rubio has called for privatizing Social Security and increasing the retirement age.
- Rubio has stood in support of unions and organized labor.
- While serving in the State Legislature, Rubio deviated from fiscal conservatism in several additional instances.
- Rubio has acknowledged global warming and helped the left advance an anti-left environmental agenda.

Healthcare

- Rubio embraced aspects of the left's burdensome reaction to COVID.
- Rubio has previously promoted childhood vaccine and criticized unvaccinated people.
- Rubio noted he was open to medical marijuana.

Race

- Rubio previously offered support for Black Lives Matter and acknowledged 'systemic racism'.

Second Amendment

- Rubio has previously backed policies that undermine the Second Amendment through 'Red Flag Laws':
    - Rubio has previously backed policies that raise the assault weapon purchase age.
    - Rubio has previously opposed armed teachers.
    - Rubio has previously backed policies that undermine the Second Amendment through revamped background checks.
    - Rubio has previously supported high-capacity magazine limits.

- Rubio has previously supported a bump stock ban.
- Rubio has previously supported gun control through his opposition to guns in cars.

Vulnerabilities With Moderates

Abortion Extremism

- Moderates could consider Rubio an extremist on abortion.
- Rubio has a well-established record utilizing extremist rhetoric when describing his abortion views.

Same-Sex Families

- Rubio is known to oppose same-sex marriage.
- Rubio opposed adoption by gay foster parents.

Miscellanous

- Rubio opposed the largest proposals for Hurricane Sandy relief.
- Rubio supported letting the ethanol mandate expire.
- Critics could suggest that Rubio defunded schools in his own state legislative region.
- Rubio advocated on behalf of the for-profit company operating Corinthian Colleges.

Ethical Qualms And Questionable Leadership

Ethics Issues

- Rubio is tied to various misuses of taxpayer funds.
- Rubio is tied to a previous misuse of the Florida GOP credit card.
- Rubio is tied to a previous misuse of campaign funds.
- Rubio is tied to a previous failure to report a suspicious line of credit.
- Rubio is tied to a previous failure to make proper filings for PACs.
- Rubio is tied to foreclosure proceedings against a property jointly owned with David Rivera.
- Rubio has engaged in questionable self-enrichment and lobbying during political service.

Controversial Associations

- Rubio has ties to controversial figure David Rivera.

- Rubio has ties to controversial figures Alan Mendelsohn and Joel Steinger (Mutual Benefits Corp. Ponzi Scheme).
- Rubio has ties to controversial figure Mark Cereceda.
- Rubio has ties to controversial figure Esteban Bovo.
- Rubio has ties to controversial figure Wayne Berman.
- Rubio has ties to controversial figure Norman Braman.
- Rubio has ties to the controversial Fanjul family.
- Rubio has ties to the controversial Floridians for Conservative Leadership Committee (FCLC).

Character And Leadership Issues

- Critics have suggested Rubio is known for his ambition, opportunism, and self-promotion.
- Rubio famously flip-flopped on running for Senate in 2016.
- Critics have suggested Rubio is known for his vanity, lightweight, and diminished stature.
- Critics have suggested Rubio is known for his ideological flexibility.
- Critics might suggest Rubio is a career politician who lacks a resume of accomplishments.
- Critics could suggest that Rubio has one of the worst missed voting records.
- Rubio is known to have poorly managed his Senate office.

Personal Issues And Additional Foibles

- Several potential controversies stem from Rubio's family's immigration the U.S.
- Rubio's family has ties to drug dealing and criminal activity.
- Rubio has been known to face a bevy of additional finance issues.
- Rubio claims to have briefly been a Mormon.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION: MARCO RUBIO



Full Name:	Marco Antonio Rubio
DOB:	[redacted]
Social Security:	Unk.
Home Address:	[redacted]
Marital Status:	Married
Spouse:	Jeanette Christina Rubio (née Dousdebes) [redacted]
Children:	Four
Voter Registration:	Registered Republican – Miami-Dade County, Florida

Education:

1996 J.D., University of Miami School of Law
1993 B.A., Political Science, University of Florida

Employment:

2011 – Pres.	Senator, U.S. Senate, Florida
2008 – Pres.	Visiting Professor, Florida International University
2008 – 2010	Consultant, Maimi Children's Hospital
2008 – 2010	Consultant, Jackson Hospital Systems
2000 – 2008	Representative, Florida House of Representatives, HD-111
2004 – 2010	Attorney, Broad and Cassel
2001 – 2004	Attorney, Becker & Poliakoff
Unk. – 2000	Lobbyist, Ruden McClosky
1998 – 2000	Commissioner, West Miami City Commission
1996 – 1996	Statewide Coordinator, Bob Dole for President

Associations:

Board Member, Alafit International
Florida Chair, Grand Old Party Action Committee
Board Member, Latin Builders Association
Board Member, Miami Performing Arts Center

Military Service: N/A

Election Results:	2022	U.S. Senate, Florida (General, Won)
	2016	U.S. Senate, Florida (General, Won)
	2016	President of the United States (Primary, Withdrew)
	2010	U.S. Senate, Florida (General, Won)
	2008	Florida House of Representatives, HD-111 (General, Won)
	2006	Florida House of Representatives, HD-111 (General, Won)
	2004	Florida House of Representatives, HD-111 (General, Won)
	2002	Florida House of Representatives, HD-111 (General, Won)
	2000	Florida House of Representatives, HD-111 (General, Won)
	1999	Florida House of Representatives, HD-111 (Special Runoff, Won)
	1998	West Miami Commission (General, Won)

Web Sites:
https://marcorubio.com/
https://www.rubio.senate.gov/
https://en.wikipedia.org/
https://www.congress.gov/
https://ballotpedia.org/
https://justfacts.votesmart.org/

Social Media:
Facebook (Campaign)
Facebook (Official)
Twitter (Campaign)
Twitter (Official)
Instagram (Campaign)
Instagram (Official)
YouTube (Campaign)

Email: [redacted]

Phone: [redacted]

ELECTION RESULTS

Marco Rubio has been serving in elected public office since 1998. Rubio was first elected to the West Miami Commission in 1998 before being elected in the 1999 special election for the Florida House of Representatives for District 111; Rubio was re-elected in 2000, 2002, 2004, and 2006. Rubio has served as a U.S. Senator from Florida since winning his 2010 campaign; Rubio was re-elected in 2016 and 2022. Rubio ran for President of the United States in 2016 but withdrew in March 2016 shortly after Super Tuesday.

2022 General Election, U.S. Senate, Florida

General Election Results (November 8, 2022)

Candidate	Party	Vote Total
Marco Rubio	REP	4,474,847
Val Demings	DEM	3,201,522

(Official Election Results, Federal Election Commission, 11/8/22)

2016 General Election, U.S. Senate, Florida

General Election Results (November 8, 2016)

Candidate	Party	Vote Total
Marco Rubio	REP	4,835,191
Patrick Murphy	DEM	4,122,088

(Official Election Results, Federal Election Commission, 11/8/16)

2010 General Election, U.S. Senate, Florida

General Election Results (November 2, 2010)

Candidate	Party	Vote Total
Marco Rubio	REP	2,645,743
Kendrick Meek	DEM	1,092,936

(Official Election Results, Federal Election Commission, 11/2/10)

2006 General Election, Florida House Of Representatives, HD-111

NOTE: *Rubio was unopposed in this campaign.*

2004 General Election, Florida House Of Representatives, HD-111

General Election Results (November 2, 2004)

Candidate	Party	Vote Total
Marco Rubio	REP	26,741
Laura Veyva	DEM	13,564

(Official Election Results, Florida Department Of State, 11/2/04)

2002 General Election, Florida House Of Representatives, HD-111

NOTE: *Rubio was unopposed in this campaign.*

2000 General Election, Florida House Of Representatives, HD-111

NOTE: *Rubio was unopposed in this campaign.*

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Since 2023, Marco Rubio has received an aggregate of $1,961,815.61 in total contributions for his re-election campaign. Rubio has been funded by a variety of corporations that may be viewed as problematic within the Republican Party such as Eli Lilly, Amgen, and L3Harris. Rubio has also received tens of thousands of dollars from special interest groups, law firms, and PACs. Between 2017 and 2022, Rubio received an aggregate of $47,382,478.38 in total contributions. Rubio received more than $500,000 from the real estate-backed VoteSane PAC as well as nearly hundreds of thousands of dollars from potential controversial corporations like Disney, American Crystal Sugar, Google, and the GEO Group (private prison). Rubio additionally received hundreds of thousands of dollars from establishment Republicans including $500,000 from John Coryn, $15,000 from Mitch McConnell, among others; Rubio also received funding from Koch Industries. Between 2000 and 2016, Rubio received a total of $84,465,176 for his various campaigns for federal and state office, including President of the United States. Similar to his more recent campaigns, Rubio was funding largely by establishment politicians, corporations, and megadonors like Mitch McConnell, Richard Uihlein, Koch Industries, and John Bolton. Rubio additionally received funding from various defense corporations like Lockheed Martin and Honeywell, as well as pharmaceutical companies like Pfizer.

Individually, Rubio has contributed an aggregate of $5,037.89 to federal and statewide campaign committees. Federally, Rubio contributed $1,100, giving to Lincoln Diaz-Balart and the Florida Republican Party. At the state level, Rubio has contributed $3,937.89, giving more than $1,000 to his own campaign, as well as contributing to Charlie Crist's 2006 gubernatorial campaign and the Republican Party of Florida.

Marco Rubio For Florida (2023-Pres.)

Notable Contributions

Thus Far, Rubio Has Received An Aggregate Of $1,961,815.61 In Total Campaign Contributions For His 2028 Campaign For United States Senate. (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **In 2023, Rubio Received $5,000 From Maynard Cooper & Gale PC PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2023, Rubio Received $5,000 From Working For Ohio.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2023, Rubio Received $2,500 From T-Mobile PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **In 2023, Rubio Received $2,000 From Univision Communications Inc. PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2023, Rubio Received $1,500 From American Airlines PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2023, Rubio Received $1,500 From Samsung Electronics America Inc. PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2023, Rubio Received $1,000 From American Hospital Association PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2023, Rubio Received $1,000 From Amgen Inc. PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2023, Rubio Received $1,000 From Eli Lilly And Company PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2023, Rubio Received $1,000 From L3Harris Technologies Inc. PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

Marco Rubio For Florida (2017-2022)

Notable Contributions

Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received An Aggregate Of $47,382,478.38 In Total Campaign Contributions For His Campaigns For United States Senate. (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $553,075 From VoteSane PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $489,744.49 From Cornyn Victory Committee.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $102,543.50 From Pro-Israel America PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $51,200 From The National Republican Senatorial Committee.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $20,900 From American Israel Public Affairs Committee PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $20,000 From Altria Group Inc. PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $15,540 From Team McConnell.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $15,000 From Bluegrass Committee.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $15,000 From Chevron Employees PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $15,000 From CVS Health PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $12,500 From Walt Disney Company PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From American Crystal Sugar PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From Comcast Corporation & NBC University PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From Duke Energy Corporation PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From Florida Citrus Mutual PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From The Geo Group, Inc. PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From Koch Industries Inc.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From Nebraska Sandhills PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $10,000 From Verizon Communications Inc. PAC (Verizon PAC).** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $5,000 From Google.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $5,000 From National Association Of Broadcasters PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $5,000 From NextEra Energy PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $5,000 From Norfolk Southern Corporation Good Government Fund.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $5,000 From Phillips 66 PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $5,000 From Nelson Peltz, Founder Of Investment Management Firm Trian Partners.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $5,000 From Reynolds American PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2017 And 2022, Rubio Received At Least $5,000 From Valero PAC.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

Marco Rubio For Florida (2000-2016)

Notable Contributions

Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received An Aggregate Of $84,465,176 In Total Campaign Contributions For His Campaigns For State And Federal Offices. (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $89,400 From The National Republican Senatorial Committee.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $30,500 From Geo Group**. (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $25,000 From National Association Of Wholesaler-Distributors.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $25,000 From Senate Majority Fund.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $21,100 From Exxon Mobil.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $20,500 From Reynolds American.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $20,000 From Bluegrass Committee.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $20,000 From Devon Energy.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $19,15 From Richard Uihlein.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $19,000 From Florida Citrus Mutual.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $18,500 From AT&T.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $16,300 From Norman Braman, A Billionaire South Florida Automobile Dealer And Former Owner Of The Philadelphia Eagles.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,950 From Chevron Corp.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,500 From Comcast Corporation & NBC Universal.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,500 From Pfizer.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,500 From Walmart.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,000 From American Crystal Sugar.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,000 From Halliburton Co.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,000 From Koch Industries.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,000 From Lockheed Martin.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $15,000 From Valero Energy Corporation.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $14,000 From Altria Client Services.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $10,500 From Honeywell International.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $10,000 From The American Medical Association.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $10,000 From John Bolton Campaign Committee.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $10,000 From The National Football League.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $10,000 From NextEra Energy.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $5,400 From Marathon Petroleum.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $5,575 From Club For Growth.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **Between 2000 And 2016, Rubio Received $2,290 Fro ——— orp.** (Open Secrets, Accessed 3/29/24)

Individual Contributions

Federal Election Commission

According To The Federal Election Commission, Rubio Has Contributed An Aggregate Of $1,100 To Federal Campaign Committees. (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **In 2008, Rubio Contributed $600 To The Republican Party Of Florida.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2008, Rubio Contributed $500 To Lincoln Diaz-Balart.** (Federal Election Commission, Accessed 3/29/24)

Florida Department Of State

According To The Florida Department Of State, Rubio Has Contributed An Aggregate Of $3,937.80 To Campaign Committees In The State Of Florida. (Florida Department Of State, Accessed 3/29/24)

- **Between 1999 And 2000, Rubio Contributed Or Loaned $1,020 To His Campaign.** (Florida Department Of State, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2010, Rubio Contributed $2,417.80 To The Republican Party Of Florida.** (Florida Department Of State, Accessed 3/29/24)
- **In 2006, Rubio Contributed $500 To Charlie Crist's Gubernatorial Campaign.** (Florida Department Of State, Accessed 3/29/24)

VOTING RECORDS

Marco Rubio has been an actively-registered Republican Party voter in Miami-Dade County, Florida since June 1, 1989. Since 1995, Rubio has failed to vote in at least five elections including the 2020 presidential preference primary election.

Miami-Dade County, FL

According To The Miami-Dade County Supervisor Of Elections, Rubio Has Been An Actively-Registered Republican Party Voter In Miami-Dade County, Florida Since June 1, 1989. (Voter Profile Report: Marco Rubio, Miami-Dade County Supervisor Of Elections, Filed 6/1/89, Florida Sunshine Law Request, Filled 3/27/24)

Date / Fecha / Dat	**03/27/2024**
Time / Hora / Lè	**09:29 AM**
Regn Number / Número de Registración / Nimewo Enskripsyon	**109340956**
Voter Name / Nombre de Votante / Non Votè	**Rubio, Marco**
Residence / Residencia / Domisil	[redacted]
Mailing Address / Dirección postal / Adrès Postal	**none**
Voter Status / Estado del elector / Estati Votè	**1(A) Active Voter**
Birth Date / Fecha de Nacimiento / Dat Nesans	[redacted]
Birth Place / Lugar del Nacimiento / Lye Nesans	**US**
Sex / Sexo / Sèks	**M**
Race / Raza / Ras	**5**
Party / Partido / Pati Politik	**REP**
Precinct / Precinto / Biwo Vòt	[redacted]
Registration Date / Fecha de Inscripción / Dat Enskripsyon	**Jun/01/1989**
Assistance Required / Requiere asistencia / Bezwen Asistans	**N**

(Voter Profile Report: Marco Rubio, Miami-Dade County Supervisor Of Elections, Filed 6/1/89, Florida Sunshine Law Request, Filled 3/27/24)

Since 1995, Rubio Has Failed To Vote In At Least Five Elections: The 2010 West Miami Regular Election, Two 2013 Miami-Dade County Special Elections, The 2018 Special Primary House Election, And The 2020 Presidential Preference Primary Election. (Voter Profile Report: Marco Rubio, Miami-Dade County Supervisor Of Elections, Filed 6/1/89, Florida Sunshine Law Request, Filled 3/27/24)

2020 Pres Preference Primary	Mar/17/2020	Did not vote
2018 Special Primary - House 114	Feb/20/2018	Did not vote
Miami-Dade County Special Electi	Nov/05/2013	Did not vote
Miami-Dade County Special Electi	May/14/2013	Did not vote
West Miami Regular Election	Apr/13/2010	Did not vote

(Voter Profile Report: Marco Rubio, Miami-Dade County Supervisor Of Elections, Filed 6/1/89, Florida Sunshine Law Request, Filled 3/27/24)

NOTE: *Voting history prior to 1995 is not readily available, per retention schedule.*

EDUCATION RECORDS

NOTE: Education records can be verified upon request.

PUBLIC COMPENSATION RECORDS

Since 2011, Marco Rubio has received an aggregate of $2,305,500 in taxpayer-funded compensation while serving in the United States Senate.

U.S. Senate (2011-Pres.)

Since 2011, Rubio Has Received An Aggregate Of $2,305,500 In Taxpayer-Funded Compensation While Serving In The United States Senate. (Salaries, U.S. Senate, Accessed 3/29/24)

2011	$174,000 per annum
2012	$174,000 per annum
2013	$174,000 per annum
2014	$174,000 per annum
2015	$174,000 per annum
2016	$174,000 per annum
2017	$174,000 per annum
2018	$174,000 per annum
2019	$174,000 per annum
2020	$174,000 per annum
2021	$174,000 per annum
2022	$174,000 per annum
2023	$174,000 per annum
2024	$174,000 per annum

(Salaries, U.S. Senate, Accessed 3/29/24)

CRIMINAL RECORDS

NOTE: No criminal records could be found for Marco Rubio.

POLICE RECORDS

NOTE: No immediately actionable information could be gleaned from municipal law enforcement records relating to Marco Rubio.

REAL PROPERTY RECORDS

[redacted]

This is the primary residence owned by Marco Rubio and his wife, Jeanette. This single-family residence comprises three bedrooms and three-and-a-half bathrooms and has a 2023 appraised value of $633,590. Rubio and his wife have owned the property since January 2021.



(Miami-Dade County Appraiser, Accessed 3/29/24)

Property Information

Full Address:	[redacted]
County:	Miami-Dade County
Parcel ID:	[redacted]
Property Type:	Single-Family Residential
Owner:	LIVE OAK FAMILY TRUST (MARCO A RUBIO)
Sale Date:	01/22/2021
Sale Price:	$995,000
Year Built:	1983
Total Bedrooms:	3
Total Bathrooms:	3.5
Total Square Footage:	2,508
2023 Appraised Value:	$633,590

(Miami-Dade County Appraiser, Accessed 3/29/24)

Tax Information

In 2023, Rubio Paid $11,519.79 In Total Municipal Property Taxes. (Miami-Dade County Tax Collector, Accessed 3/29/24)

AD VALOREM TAXES

TAXING AUTHORITY	ASSESSED VALUE	MILLAGE RATE PER	$1,000 OF TAXABLE VALUE	TAXES LEVIED
Miami-Dade School Board				
School Board Operating	683,590	5.56600	658,590	3,665.71
School Board Debt Service	683,590	0.13300	658,590	87.59
Voted School Operating	683,590	1.00000	658,590	658.59
State and Other				
Florida Inland Navigation District	683,590	0.02880	633,590	18.25
South Florida Water Management District	683,590	0.09480	633,590	60.06
Okeechobee Basin	683,590	0.10260	633,590	65.01
Everglades Construction Project	683,590	0.03270	633,590	20.72
Childrens Trust Authority	683,590	0.50000	633,590	316.80
Miami-Dade County				
County Wide Operating	683,590	4.57400	633,590	2,898.04
County Wide Debt Service	683,590	0.43550	633,590	275.93
Unincorporated Operating	683,590	1.90900	633,590	1,209.52
Library District	683,590	0.28120	633,590	178.17
Fire Rescue Operating	683,590	2.39650	633,590	1,518.40

Paid

NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS

LEVYING AUTHORITY	RATE	FOOTAGE/UNITS	AMOUNT
T0004 GARB,TRASH,TRC,RECYCLE	@ 547.0000	1.000	547.00

AMOUNT IF PAID BY (pay only one amount)					Combined Taxes and Assessments
Nov 30, 2023					$11,519.79
$0.00					

([Miami-Dade County Tax Collector](), Accessed 3/29/24)

BANKRUPTCIES, JUDGMENTS, & LIENS RECORDS

In June 2010, Marco Rubio and several others were named in a lis pendens and foreclosure complaint; in June 2010, the case was dismissed after the property was sold or the outstanding debts were paid.

There are no other financial proceedings in which Rubio has been directly named personally. For other financial, legal, and ethical matters and vulnerabilities please refer to the Appendix and pertinent narrative sections.

Foreclosure

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company V. Marco Rubio, Et Al.

In June 2010, Deutsche Bank Filed A Lis Pendens And Foreclosure Complaint Against Rubio And Several Others In Leon County, Florida. (Case No. 37 2010 CA 002070, *Deutsche Bank National Trust Company V. Marco Rubio, Et Al.*, Leon County Clerk Of Court, Filed 6/14/10)

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE UNDER THE INDENTURE RELATING TO IMH ASSETS CORP., COLLATERALIZED ASSET-BACKED BONDS, SERIES 2005-5,
Plaintiff,

vs.

MARCO A. RUBIO; TIMBER LAKE HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC., OF TALLAHASSEE; DAVID M. RIVERA; UNKNOWN TENANT (S); IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY,
Defendants.

10 JUN 14 AM 10:57
C-65
BOB INZER
CLERK CIRCUIT COURT
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

[redacted]

TO THE ABOVE STYLED DEFENDANTS AND ALL OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED of the institution of this action by Plaintiff against you seeking to foreclose a mortgage recorded in Official Records **Book 3258** at **Page 368** on the following property in Leon County, Florida:

[redacted]

37 2010 CA 002070 - DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY vs RUBIO, MARCO A

Party Status	Party	Party Code	Attorney	Attorney Status
	RUBIO, MARCO A	DEFENDANT	PRO SE	INACTIVE 01/16/2014
	TIMBER LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC OF TALLAHAS.	DEFENDANT	PRO SE	INACTIVE 01/16/2014
	RIVERA, DAVID M	DEFENDANT	PRO SE	INACTIVE 01/16/2014
	UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION.	DEFENDANT	PRO SE	INACTIVE 01/16/2014
	DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY.	PLAINTIFF	CLAUDINE T SMIKLE	INACTIVE 01/16/2014

Top of Page

Action Dscr	Open/Reopen Status	Open/Reopen Date	Disposition	Disposition Date	Judge
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NON-HOMESTEAD RESIDENTIAL MORE THAN $50,000 BUT LESS THAN $250,000	CLOS	6/14/2010	DISMISSED BEFORE HEARING - OTHER	6/23/2010	SHELFER

(Case No. 37 2010 CA 002070, *Deutsche Bank National Trust Company V. Marco Rubio, Et Al.*, Leon County Clerk Of Court, Filed 6/14/10)

- **In June 2010, The Case Was Dismissed After The Property Was Sold Or The Outstanding Debts Were Paid.** (Case No. 37 2010 CA 002070, *Deutsche Bank National Trust Company V. Marco Rubio, Et Al.*, Leon County Clerk Of Court, Filed 6/23/10)

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE UNDER THE INDENTURE RELATING TO IMH ASSETS CORP., COLLATERALIZED ASSET-BACKED BONDS, SERIES 2005-5, Plaintiff, vs. MARCO A. RUBIO, et al, Defendants.	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 37-2010-CA-002070

NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISMISSAL AND RELEASE OF LIS PENDENS

Plaintiff, DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE UNDER THE INDENTURE RELATING TO IMH ASSETS CORP., COLLATERALIZED ASSET-BACKED BONDS, SERIES 2005-5, by and through its undersigned counsel, voluntarily dismisses its complaint for Foreclosure and Other Relief, without Prejudice, and release the Notice of Lis Pendens as to the property described as follows:

[redacted]

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy of the foregoing was delivered to the parties on the attached mailing list by mail this 22 day of June, 2010.

(Case No. 37 2010 CA 002070, *Deutsche Bank National Trust Company V. Marco Rubio, Et Al.*, Leon County Clerk Of Court, Filed 6/23/10)

LEGAL ISSUES

NOTE: No legal issues could be found for Marco Rubio. For other financial, legal, and ethical matters and vulnerabilities please refer to the Appendix and pertinent narrative sections.

BUSINESS RECORDS

Marco Rubio is former manager of two Florida-domiciled businesses: Marco Rubio, P.A. and Rubio Consulting, Inc., both which he operated between 2008 and 2011.

Marco Rubio, P.A.

In May 2008, Rubio Incorporated Marco Rubio, P.A. As A Domestic For-Profit Entity With The Florida Department Of State. (Florida Department Of State, Filed 5/21/08)

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Article I. Name

The name of this Florida corporation is:
Marco Rubio, P.A.

Article II. Purpose

The Corporation is being formed for the practice of law and all other activities permitted under applicable law.

Article III. Address
The street and mailing address of the Corporation's initial principal office is:

[redacted]

Article IV. Board of Directors
The name of each member of the Corporation's Board of Directors is:
Marco Rubio

FILED
2008 MAY 21 AM 9:25
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

(Florida Department Of State, Filed 5/21/08)

- **In December 2011, The Company Was Voluntarily Dissolved.** (Florida Department Of State, Filed 12/19/11)

ARTICLES OF DISSOLUTION FILED

11 DEC 19 PM 1:15
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Pursuant to section 607.1401, Florida Statutes, this Florida profit corporation submits the following articles of dissolution:

FIRST: The name of the corporation as currently filed with the Florida Department of State:
Marco Rubio, P.A.

SECOND: The document number of the corporation (if known): P08000051042

THIRD: The file date of the articles of incorporation: 5/21/08

FOURTH: (CHECK AT LEAST ONE BOX)

☑ None of the corporation's shares have been issued.

☐ The corporation has not commenced business.

FIFTH: No debt of the corporation remains unpaid.

SIXTH: The net assets of the corporation remaining after winding up have been distributed to the shareholders, if shares were issued.

SEVENTH: Adoption of Dissolution (CHECK ONE)

☐ A majority of the incorporators authorized the dissolution.

☑ A majority of the directors authorized the dissolution.

(Florida Department Of State, Filed 12/19/11)

Rubio Consulting, Inc.

In May 2008, Rubio Incorporated Rubio Consulting, Inc. As A Domestic For-Profit Entity With The Florida Department Of State. (Florida Department Of State, Filed 5/21/08)

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Article I. Name

The name of this Florida corporation is:
Rubio Consulting, Inc.

Article II. Address

The street and mailing address of the Corporation's initial principal office is:

[redacted]

FILED
2008 MAY 21 AM 9:24
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Article III. Registered Agent

The name and address of the Corporation's registered agent is:

[redacted]

Article IV. Board of Directors

The name of each member of the Corporation's Board of Directors is:
Marco Rubio

The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors cons sting of no less than one director. The number of directors may be increased or decreased fr om time to time in accordance with the Bylaws of the Corporation. The election of directors hall be done in accordance with the Bylaws. The directors shall be protected from persona liability to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

(Florida Department Of State, Filed 5/21/08)

- **In December 2011, The Company Was Voluntarily Dissolved.** (Florida Department Of State, Filed 12/19/11)

ARTICLES OF DISSOLUTION

FILED
11 DEC 19 PM 1:11
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Pursuant to section 607.1401, Florida Statutes, this Florida profit corporation submits the following articles of dissolution:

FIRST: The name of the corporation as currently filed with the Florida Department of State:
Rubio Consulting, Inc.

SECOND: The document number of the corporation (if known): P08000051038

THIRD: The file date of the articles of incorporation: 5/21/08

FOURTH: (CHECK AT LEAST ONE BOX)

☑ None of the corporation's shares have been issued.

☐ The corporation has not commenced business.

FIFTH: No debt of the corporation remains unpaid.

SIXTH: The net assets of the corporation remaining after winding up have been distributed to the shareholders, if shares were issued.

SEVENTH: Adoption of Dissolution (CHECK ONE)

☐ A majority of the incorporators authorized the dissolution.

☑ A majority of the directors authorized the dissolution.

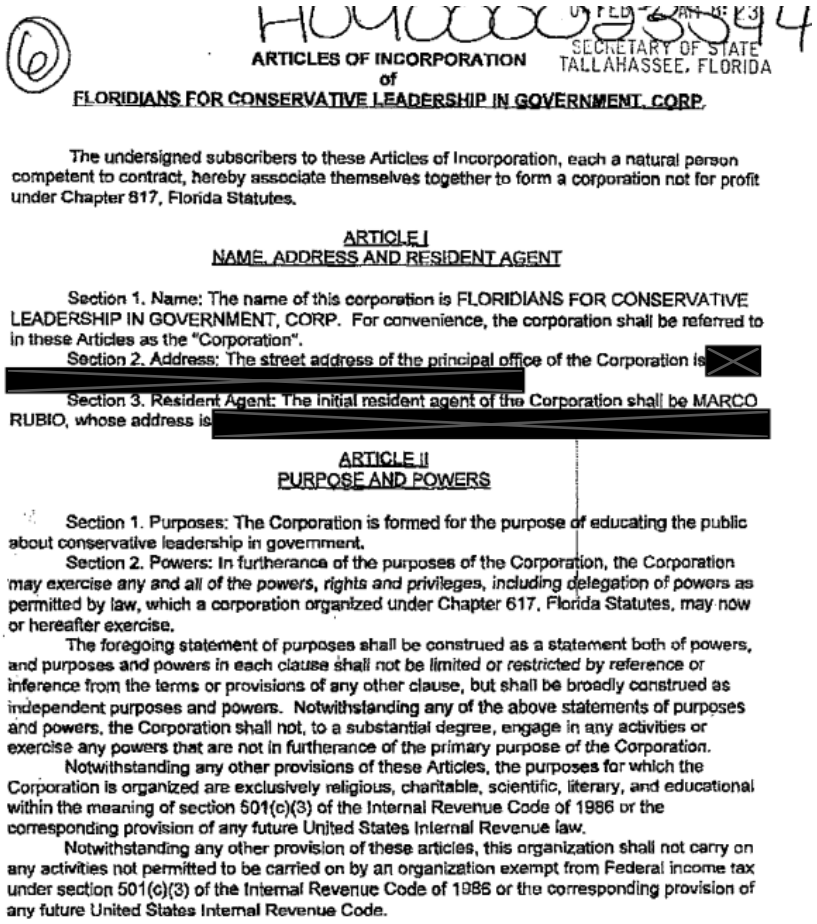
(Florida Department Of State, Filed 12/19/11)

NON-PROFIT RECORDS

Marco Rubio is the former manager of the Florida-domiciled non-profit Floridians For Conservative Leadership In Government, Corp., which he operated between 2004 and 2006.

Floridians For Conservative Leadership In Government, Corp.

In February 2004, Rubio Incorporated Floridians For Conservative Leadership In Government, Corp. As A Domestic Non-Profit With The Florida Department Of State.
(Florida Department Of State, Filed 2/2/04)



ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
of
FLORIDIANS FOR CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP IN GOVERNMENT, CORP.

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The undersigned subscribers to these Articles of Incorporation, each a natural person competent to contract, hereby associate themselves together to form a corporation not for profit under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE I
NAME, ADDRESS AND RESIDENT AGENT

Section 1. Name: The name of this corporation is FLORIDIANS FOR CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP IN GOVERNMENT, CORP. For convenience, the corporation shall be referred to in these Articles as the "Corporation".

Section 2. Address: The street address of the principal office of the Corporation is [redacted]

Section 3. Resident Agent: The initial resident agent of the Corporation shall be MARCO RUBIO, whose address is [redacted]

ARTICLE II
PURPOSE AND POWERS

Section 1. Purposes: The Corporation is formed for the purpose of educating the public about conservative leadership in government.

Section 2. Powers: In furtherance of the purposes of the Corporation, the Corporation may exercise any and all of the powers, rights and privileges, including delegation of powers as permitted by law, which a corporation organized under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, may now or hereafter exercise.

The foregoing statement of purposes shall be construed as a statement both of powers, and purposes and powers in each clause shall not be limited or restricted by reference or inference from the terms or provisions of any other clause, but shall be broadly construed as independent purposes and powers. Notwithstanding any of the above statements of purposes and powers, the Corporation shall not, to a substantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the primary purpose of the Corporation.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the purposes for which the Corporation is organized are exclusively religious, charitable, scientific, literary, and educational within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this organization shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Code.

(Florida Department Of State, Filed 2/2/04)

- **In September 2006, The Organization Was Administratively Dissolved For Failing To File Its Annual Report.** (Florida Department Of State, Filed 9/15/06)

Florida Not For Profit Corporation
FLORIDIANS FOR CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP IN GOVERNMENT, CORP.

Filing Information

Document Number	N04000001177
FEI/EIN Number	[redacted]
Date Filed	02/02/2004
State	FL
Status	INACTIVE
Last Event	ADMIN DISSOLUTION FOR ANNUAL REPORT
Event Date Filed	09/15/2006
Event Effective Date	NONE

(Florida Department Of State, Filed 9/15/06)

PROFESSIONAL & RECREATIONAL LICENSES

Marco Rubio has been a licensed attorney in the state of Florida since February 3, 1997.

Attorney License

Florida

Rubio Has Been A Licensed Attorney In The State Of Florida Since February 3, 1997.
(Florida Bar, Accessed 3/29/24)

Marco Antonio Rubio

Member in Good Standing	Eligible to Practice Law in Florida

Bar Number:	[redacted]
Mail Address:	[redacted]
Email:	[redacted]
Personal Bar URL:	https://www.floridabar.org/mybarprofile/102946
vCard:	
County:	Miami-Dade
Circuit:	11
Admitted:	02/03/1997
10-Year Discipline History:	None
Law School:	University of Miami School of Law
Languages:	English Spanish
Federal Courts:	U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
State Courts:	Florida

(Florida Bar, Accessed 3/29/24)

PERSONAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

On his 2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Marco Rubio declared his net worth was valued between $28,009 and $4,779,998, stemming from assets valued between $1,078,009 and $5,295,000 and liabilities totaling between $515,002 and $1,050,000. Rubio's largest asset and liability stem from his Miami property, which is valued between $1 and $5 million and carries a mortgage up to $1 million. Outside of his property, Rubio's assets primarily consist of his 529 college plans for his children, as well as stock holding in Coca-Cola. Rubio disclosed he has been a fellow at Florida International University since 2011 and had several agreements with publishing companies.

2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, U.S. Senate

Net Worth

Rubio's Calculable Net Worth Was Valued Between $28,009 And $4,779,998. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

- **Rubio's Assets Were Valued Between $1,078,009 And $5,295,000.** (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)
- **Rubio's Liabilities Were Valued Between $515,002 And $1,050,000.** (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Assets

$1,000,001 – $5,000,000

Rubio Listed An Asset Valued Between $1,000,001 And $5,000,000 A His Personal Residence In Miami, Florida. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

$15,001 – $50,000

Rubio Listed An Asset Valued Between $15,001 And $50,000 A Guaranteed Pooled Fund. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Listed An Asset Valued Between $15,001 And $50,000 A Florida 529 Prepaid Tuition Plan. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Listed Assets Valued Between $45,003 And $150,000 Florida 529 Prepaid Tuition Plans. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

$1,001 – $15,000

Rubio Listed An Asset Valued Between $1,001 And $15,000 A Citibank Checking Account. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Listed An Asset Valued Between $1,001 And $15,000 A KO Stock. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Listed An Asset Valued Between $1,001 And $15,000 A Professional Bank Checking Account. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Liabilities

Rubio Declared A Mortgage Valued Between $500,001 And $1,000,000 To Professional Bank As A Liability. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Declared A Revolving Charge Valued Between $15,001 And $50,000 To Citibank (Mastercard) As A Liability. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Earned Income

Rubio Declared He Received $30,000 In Royalties From The Javelin Group LLC. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Declared He Received $19,307.93 In Salary From Florida International University. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Positions

Rubio Declared He Has Been A Senior Fellow At Florida International University Since May 2011. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Agreements

Rubio Declared He Has Held A Royalty Agreement With Penguin Group USA Since January 2012 For Book Royalties. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Declared He Has Held A Royalty Agreement With Penguin Group USA Since December 2013 For Book Royalties. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Declared He Has Held A Royalty Agreement With HarperCollins Publishers LLC Since June 2022 For Book Royalties. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Rubio Declared He Has Held A Pension Plan Agreement With The Florida Retirement System Since January 2000. (2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

RUBIO'S ANTI-TRUMP RECORD ESTABLISHMENT TIES

MEDIA NARRATIVE: RUBIO'S EVOLUTION ON TRUMP – OUTSPOKEN CRITIC TO HOPEFUL VICE PRESIDENT

Rubio Was An Outspoken Opponent Of Trump "Before He Ended Up Grudgingly Backing Trump In 2016, More Enthusiastically Backing Him In 2020, And Even More Enthusiastically Backing Him In 2024—Endorsing Him In January Over Their Home State Governor, Ron DeSantis, The Day Before The Iowa Caucus"

Rubio Was An Outspoken Opponent Of Trump "Before He Ended Up Grudgingly Backing Trump In 2016, More Enthusiastically Backing Him In 2020, And Even More Enthusiastically Backing Him In 2024—Endorsing Him In January Over Their Home State Governor, Ron DeSantis, The Day Before The Iowa Caucus." "Back then, Rubio initially discouraged Republican voters from backing Trump, quipping, "Friends do not let friends vote for a con artist," before he ended up grudgingly backing Trump in 2016, more enthusiastically backing him in 2020, and even more enthusiastically backing him in 2024—endorsing him in January over their home state governor, Ron DeSantis, the day before the Iowa caucus. "I support Trump because that kind of leadership is the ONLY way we will get the extraordinary actions needed to fix the disaster [Joe Biden] has created," Rubio gushed. Will that kind of flattery be enough to land him the most humiliating job in politics? "I can't tell you that really," Trump, ever the reality TV showman, said of his veepstakes back in January. But, he added, "I know who it's going to be.'" (*Vanity Fair*, 3/22/24)

Recently, In March 2024, Rubio Claimed He Would Be Honored To Serve As Vice President

Recently, In March 2024, Rubio Claimed He Would Be Honored To Serve As Vice President. "Marco Rubio used to call him a "con artist." But now, the Florida senator says he'd be happy to be Donald Trump's running mate. "I think anybody who would be offered that should be honored," Rubio said Thursday, amid reports that he's among the leading contenders in Trump's veepstakes. He hasn't "spoken to anybody in the Trump world about it," he told NBC News, but reiterated, "Anybody who would be offered the chance to serve their country as vice president should consider that an honor." Of course, the gig in question is less about serving the public as it is about serving Trump himself, as Mike Pence learned the hard way. Though obsequious through Trump's first campaign and term, Pence's refusal to help his boss overturn the 2020 election results was a "career killer," as the former president reportedly warned him on January 6, 2021. So it seems the chief qualification for a 2024 running mate would be a willingness to do what Pence didn't that day. Who'd want such a job? Plenty of Republicans, it turns out. "The list is long," a Trump adviser told NBC News and is said to include Tim Scott, Elise Stefanik, J.D. Vance, Kristi Noem, and Tulsi Gabbard—the Democrat turned right-wing darling who is also believed to be under consideration as a possible running mate by third-party candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (Yes, RFK Jr.'s name has even been floated as a potential contender for Trump: "He's very Trumpian," former Bob Dole campaign manager Scott Reed told the New York Times this week.)" (Vanity Fair, 3/22/24)

Rubio Initially Rejected Being Trump's Vice President But Has Since Flip-Flopped

VIDEO: In March 2016, Rubio Adamantly Refused Being Trump's Vice President And Noted He Would "Absolutely" Not Accept Such An Opportunity Even If Offered. (NBC News, 3/9/16)



(NBC News, 3/9/16)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO OFFERED HARSH, VOCAL CRITICISMS AGAINST TRUMP AND PROMOTED THE NEVER TRUMP MOVEMENT

2016: "Rubio Has Called Trump A 'Con Man' Seeking To Perpetrate 'The Biggest Scam In American Political History' On American Voters, And Attacked Him For His Failed Businesses, Allegedly Fraudulent Real-Estate Courses And His Lack Of Policy Proposals…"

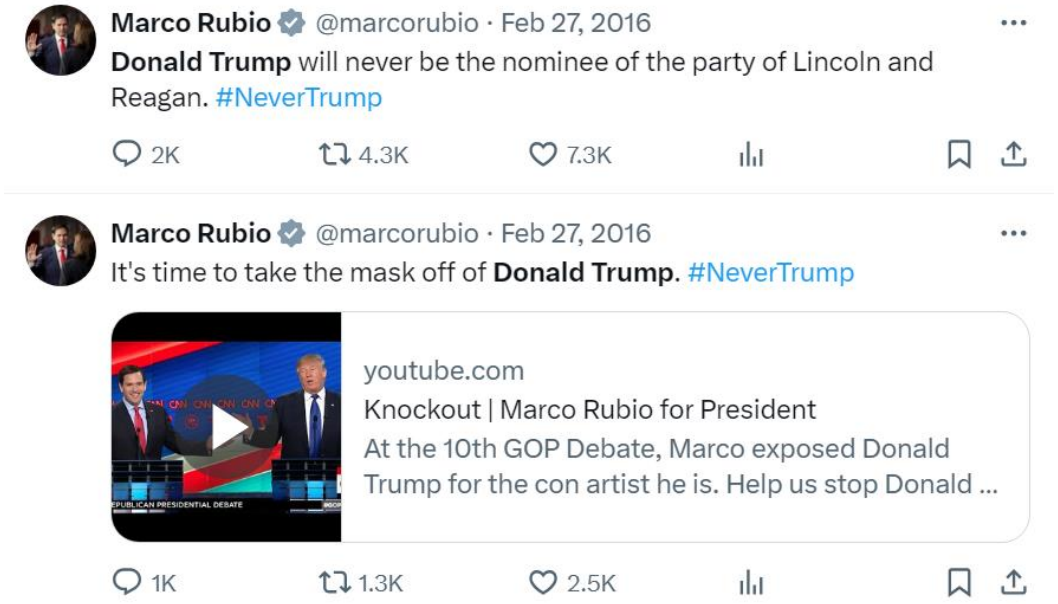
"… He Also Slammed Trump As 'Unelectable' Because He Avoided Repudiating The KKK. The Most Piercing Attacks, However, Have Aimed At Trump's Appearance And Temperament"

"Rubio Has Called Trump A 'Con Man' Seeking To Perpetrate 'The Biggest Scam In American Political History' On American Voters, And Attacked Him For His Failed Businesses, Allegedly Fraudulent Real-Estate Courses And His Lack Of Policy Proposals. On Sunday, He Also Slammed Trump As 'Unelectable' Because He Avoided Repudiating The KKK. The Most Piercing Attacks, However, Have Aimed At Trump's Appearance And Temperament." "But overall, it was a continuation of Rubio's new strategy of aggressive offense against the GOP frontrunner, which he launched the day before the debate at a spirited rally in Texas and continued to escalate over the past week. Rubio has called Trump a "con man"

seeking to perpetrate "the biggest scam in American political history" on American voters, and attacked him for his failed businesses, allegedly fraudulent real-estate courses and his lack of policy proposals. On Sunday, he also slammed Trump as "unelectable" because he avoided repudiating the KKK. The most piercing attacks, however, have aimed at Trump's appearance and temperament. Rubio's repeatedly mocked Trump's tan, telling voters Saturday "he should sue whoever did that to his face." And the day after the debate, Rubio told a crowd in Dallas that Trump was having a "meltdown" during the debate breaks and asked for a full-length mirror, perhaps to check if his "pants were wet." Some of those attacks seem to have hit their mark, and in recent days Trump has unleashed his own volley in response, suggesting Rubio puts his makeup on "with a trowel," that he's a "lightweight" and a "choker" and calling him "little Marco," prompting Rubio's response on Sunday. It's part of an effort by Rubio to position himself as the anti-Trump candidate in the GOP field, in hopes of consolidating the majority of Republican voters that national polling has shown oppose Trump as the GOP nominee. And the energetic crowds he saw as he campaigned across the South on Saturday and Sunday cheering at every Trump knock seemed to suggest Rubio was making some progress in that effort. Ken Hawley, a small businessman from Roanoke, Virginia who attended Rubio's rally Sunday, said while the attacks on Trump "probably should've been done sooner," he felt like it was resonating. "I hate it had to go that route [of attacking Trump], but I guess evidently he had to stand up for what's right, so I'm for it," he said. But it's also a gamble, as it risks undermining Rubio's claim as the positive, optimistic, and above all, most presidential candidate in the race." (NBC News, 2/29/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Promoted The Never Trump Movement During The 2016 GOP Primary

On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Promoted The Never Trump Movement During The 2016 GOP Primary. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Feb 27, 2016
Donald Trump will never be the nominee of the party of Lincoln and Reagan. #NeverTrump
2K
4.3K
7.3K
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Feb 27, 2016
It's time to take the mask off of Donald Trump. #NeverTrump
youtube.com
Knockout | Marco Rubio for President
At the 10th GOP Debate, Marco exposed Donald Trump for the con artist he is. Help us stop Donald ...
1K
1.3K
2.5K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)



(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO LEVIED ALLEGATIONS THAT TRUMP DESTROYS AMERICA AND PROMOTES VIOLENCE

VIDEO: In A March 2016 Press Conference, Rubio Condemns Trump's Violent Rhetoric For Feeding Into A Political Culture That Will Result In America Being "Ripped Apart At The Seams"

VIDEO: In A March 2016 Press Conference, Rubio Condemns Trump's Violent Rhetoric For Feeding Into A Political Culture That Will Result In America Being "Ripped Apart At The Seams." "RUBIO (00:09): I think we also have to look at the rhetoric coming from the front runner in the presidential campaign. This is a man who in rallies has told the supporters to basically beat up the people who are in the crowd and he'll pay their legal fees. Someone who encourag encouraged people in the audience to rough up anyone who stands up and says something he doesn't like. And I think the media has bear some responsibility. For too long those comments were ignored. Some people thought they're cute and he's got an extraordinary amount of coverage for all the stuff he says. That's outrageous. Every time Donald Trump offends someone says something ridiculous, says something offensive, it's wall to wall coverage and it's only elevated him even more. And so I think we all look at this and say, everyone bears responsibility for what's happening, but the result is this is what a culture and a society looks like when everybody says whatever the heck they want. (00:54) When everyone just goes around saying, I'm just going to speak my mind if I'm angry, it gives me the right to say or do anything I want. Well, there are other people that are angry too, and if they speak out and say whatever they want, the result is it all breaks down. It's called chaos, it's called anarchy, and that's what we're

careening towards in our political process. The great thing about our republic is that we settle our differences in this country at the ballot box, not with guns or bayonets or violence. And you wonder whether we're headed in a different direction today where we're no longer able or capable of having differences of opinion. But in fact, now protests become a license to take violence to take on your opponents physically. I think forget about the election for a moment. There's a broader issue in our political culture in this country, and this is what happens when a leading presidential candidate goes around feeding into a narrative of anger and bitterness and frustration. And I think we all need to take a step back and ask ourselves, are we contributing to this because of this continues? I don't think this country will continue to be ripped apart at the seams and we will be incapable of solving any of the major issues that we have." (YouTube, 3/12/16)

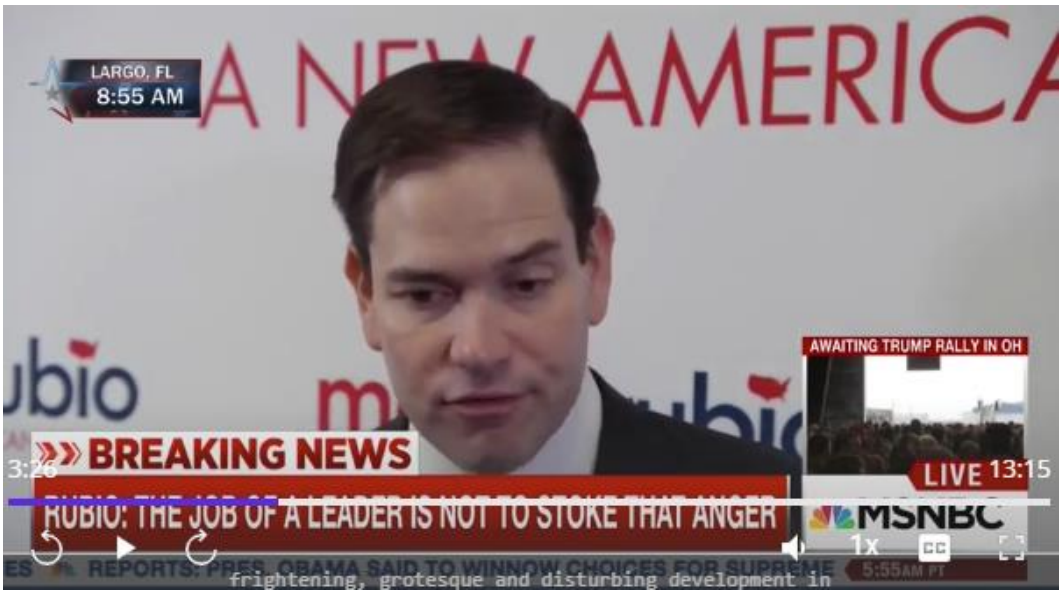


(YouTube, 3/12/16)

VIDEO: In A March 2016 Press Conference, Rubio Claimed Trump's Movement And Rhetoric Was A "Frightening, Grotesque And Disturbing Development In American Politics"

VIDEO: In A March 2016 Press Conference, Rubio Claimed Trump's Movement And Rhetoric Was A "Frightening, Grotesque And Disturbing Development In American Politics." "REPORTER (02:00): Senator, what do you think this means for the future of the Republican party? RUBIO (02:05): I think the question is what does it means for the future of America? It's not just the Republican party. Look, Barack Obama has used Avis divisive language as well. I will admit he hasn't called on people in the crowd to beat people up, but he has divided Americans up among class warfare and things of this nature. I don't say he bears any responsibility for last night. There's real frustration in America. There are people in this country who are angry because they're working really hard and their jobs are gone. There are people in

this country that are angry because they feel disenfranchised from the American dream, but the job of a leader is not to stoke that anger. The job of a leader is to address the causes of that anger and try to solve it, not try to stoke that anger so that they vote for you. (02:45) And this in many ways, not just Chicago. Put that aside for a moment. The broader anger that now exists in the American political discourse is a direct result of the fact that words have consequences. That when you run for president of the United States or if are president of the United States, whichever one is endeavoring to be, you can't just take on the attitude that I'm going to say whatever I want. You can't say whatever you want. It has real life consequences for people in this country and all over the world, and we're starting to see or bear out. You saw those images last night of people getting in their face, often divided up among racial lines. In many cases, the police officers bleeding from the head reminiscent of images from the sixties. I mean, we're going backwards here. This is a frightening, grotesque and disturbing development in American politics." (YouTube, 3/12/16)



(YouTube, 3/12/16)

VIDEO: In March 2016, Rubio Blames Trump For Political Violence And Encouraging It With His Lack Of Leadership

VIDEO: In March 2016, Rubio Blames Trump For Political Violence And Encouraging It With His Lack Of Leadership. "REPORTER (03:31): Should Donald Trump's message be to his supporters, especially these more violent ones, should he tell them to stop RUBIO (03:37): A Donald Trump supporter sucker punched the man the other day in an event Donald Trump has yet to condemn him. After the man was released from jail, he said, next time I'll kill him. He still has not condemned it. And so it tells you that in many ways he doesn't want to say anything to his supporters because he doesn't want to turn them off because he understands that the reason why they're voting for him is because he has tapped into this anger. The problem is leadership has never been about taking people's anger and using it to get 'em to vote for you. If it is, it's a dangerous style. Leadership. Leadership is about acknowledging people's anger, but as a leader

trying to address why it is their anger instead of manipulating their anger so that they become your voter, your donor and your supporter. So I think Donald Trump needs to ask, when is he going to start condemning this stuff? Because instead, all he's saying is these are really bad dudes. Almost as of justifying that since he, from 400 yards away or 400 feet away concludes that these people look dangerous to him. He understands that the crowd likes to rough them up. (04:37) That sort of thing bleeds out into the broader political debate. And I want to be clear, okay, the protesters in Chicago were not blameless. These people, many of them were clearly just there to be agitators. They were there just to create a ruckus. Okay? I know the type people just went there and said, Hey, let's go out. We can form a scene. Others were there part of interest groups. Chicago is a city that is teaming with paid protestors, and you don't have a right to say, I don't like what someone's doing, so I'm going to go blow up their event. You see this on college campuses, the left bears responsibility as well. But I am telling you that this boiling point that we have now reached has been fed largely by the fact that we have a front runner in my party who has fed into language that basically justifies physically assaulting people who disagree with you." (YouTube, 3/12/16)



(YouTube, 3/12/16)

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Broadly Criticizes Trumpism As An Empty Reaction To Anger And Frustration In America And Contends Trump Does Not Actually Represent Real Leadership

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Broadly Criticizes Trumpism As An Empty Reaction To Anger And Frustration In America And Contends Trump Does Not Actually Represent Real Leadership. "RUBIO (10:48): Well, I think President Obama has been politically divisive. There's no doubt. I mean, he has taken an attitude that if you don't agree with him on public policy, you're bad. I've seen him do that. And I think that's divisive, divisive, and perhaps a contributor to all this. But this is different. I mean, this is a different level that we're discussing now. This is the intentional injection of the use of people's anger. Basically, this is a political

candidate in Donald Trump who has identified that there are some really angry people in America. They feel as though they've been mistreated by the culture, by society, by our politics, by our economy. And he knows this. And they have, in many instances, they really have. Every major institution in our society has failed us. Higher ed education has failed us organized. Religion has failed us. The media has failing us. (11:38) Politicians and political parties are failing us. Government's failing us. Every major institution we once relied on are failing us over the last 20 years. And people are frustrated. You're working as hard as you ever have and you can't make ends meet. And along comes a presidential candidate and says, you, you know why your life is hard? Because fill in the blank. Somebody, someone, some country, they're the reasons for it. Give me power so I can go after them. That's what he's feeding into. That is not leadership, that is not productive leadership, that is not good leadership, and it is not keeping with our American tradition. That is a style of leadership that says, I know you're angry and I'm going to take advantage of it so that you vote for me. But what it overlooks is the consequences of it. And his style of doing it is basically along the lines of, I'm going to say whatever I want, even if it's not politically correct. (12:25) Well, politically correct, politically correct is one thing. It shouldn't keep you from saying truth. But another thing is to be rude and obnoxious and offensive, deliberately offensive for purposes of driving media narrative. And I want to be frank, and I'm not talking about any of you in particular. I know you don't make these decisions, but I hope the US media begins to examine the role they've played in all this. Because I can tell you that for months I've been giving speeches on public policy and nobody paid a lot of attention. And the minute that I mentioned anything personal about Donald Trump, every network cut in live to my speech is hoping I would say more of it. So then they could go on the air and say, oh, this is so sad. Subtitle. We're going to keep giving it coverage because good for our ratings. So I think we need, the media needs to begin to examine the role it's played in creating this atmosphere, because I know it's good for ratings, but it's really detrimental to our political culture and to our country at large." (YouTube, 3/12/16)


LARGO, FL
9:04 AM
AWAITING TRUMP RALLY IN OH
LIVE 13:15
BREAKING NEWS
RUBIO: I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN SUPPORT TRUMP
MSNBC
leadership, that is not productive leadership, that is not good

(YouTube, 3/12/16)

VIDEO: In March 2016, Rubio Criticizes Trump's Rhetoric Promoting Violence As "Disastrous" And Accused Him Of Promoting Hate, Anger, And Frustration

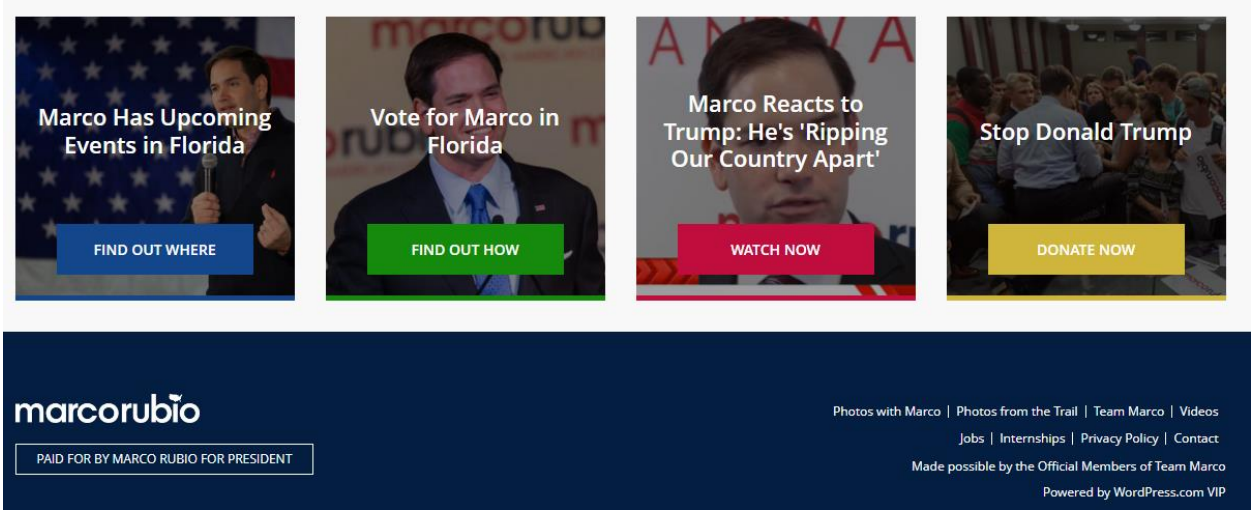
VIDEO: In March 2016, Rubio Criticizes Trump's Rhetoric Promoting Violence As "Disastrous" And Accused Him Of Promoting Hate, Anger, And Frustration. (YouTube, 3/13/16)



(YouTube, 3/13/16)

On His 2016 Campaign Site, Rubio Promoted His Claims That Trump Was "Ripping Our Country Apart" And Urged His Supporters To "Stop Donald Trump"

On His 2016 Campaign Site, Rubio Promoted His Claims That Trump Was "Ripping Our Country Apart" And Urged His Supporters To "Stop Donald Trump." (Marco Rubio, Archived 3/22/16)


Marco Has Upcoming Events in Florida
FIND OUT WHERE
Vote for Marco in Florida
FIND OUT HOW
Marco Reacts to Trump: He's 'Ripping Our Country Apart'
WATCH NOW
Stop Donald Trump
DONATE NOW
marcorubio
PAID FOR BY MARCO RUBIO FOR PRESIDENT
Photos with Marco | Photos from the Trail | Team Marco | Videos
Jobs | Internships | Privacy Policy | Contact
Made possible by the Official Members of Team Marco
Powered by WordPress.com VIP

(Marco Rubio, Archived 3/22/16)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO LEVIED ALLEGATIONS THAT TRUMP DESTROYS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AND CONSERVATIVE MOVEMENT

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Contended Trump Was Destroying The Republican Party And The Conservative Movement

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Contended Trump Was Destroying The Republican Party And The Conservative Movement. "REPORTER (07:01): Senator, you point to some of the racial divisions that we're seeing at these protests and certainly Donald Trump. You've criticized many times comments, for example, that he's made refusing to condemn the KKK or on immigrants. What do you think are the implications of a Trump presidency for race relations in America? RUBIO (07:16): I don't know other than to tell you that beyond that is I think I've already told you what I think his candidacy is going to mean, and that is it will shred, and I believe Donald Trump is our nominee is going to shatter and fracture the Republican party and the conservative movement. I think it's already having that function. I think a Donald Trump presidency would be more along those lines apparently. But right now I'm focused on what does this mean to the political discourse and more importantly to the role that Republican party and the conservative movement in this discourse." (YouTube, 3/12/16)



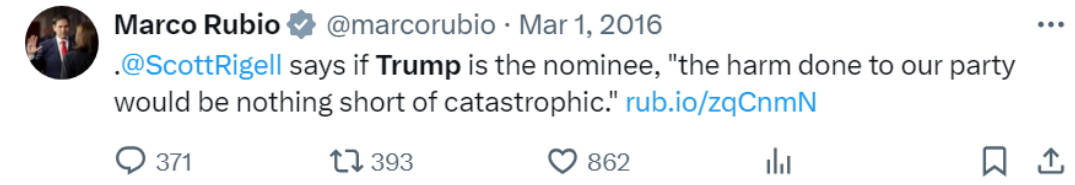
(YouTube, 3/12/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Offered Several Other Criticisms Regarding Trump's Alleged Harms For The Conservative Movement

On Social Media, Rubio Offered Several Other Criticisms Regarding Trump's Alleged Harms For The Conservative Movement. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 13, 2016
I do not want the conservative movement to be defined by what I'm seeing out of Donald Trump's campaign.
youtube.com
Marco Talks Real Leadership On ABC's This Week | M
After violent protests at Donald Trump rallies, Marco talks to George Stephanopoulos about how a real ...
466
680
1.3K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 1, 2016
.@ScottRigell says if Trump is the nominee, "the harm done to our party would be nothing short of catastrophic." rub.io/zqCnmN
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(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO LEVIED ALLEGATIONS THAT TRUMP IS DANGEROUS FOR THE WORLD

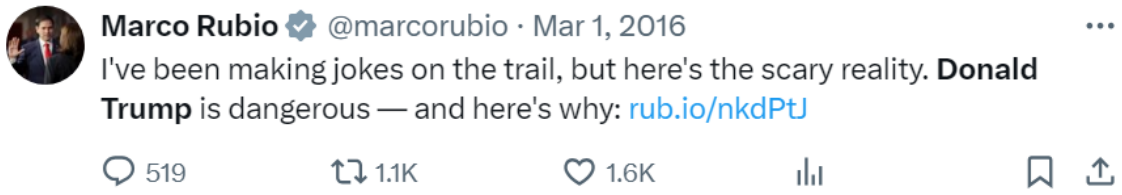
In 2016, Rubio Contended That Trump Was Dangerous And Could Not Be Trusted With America's Nuclear Codes – A Position He Continued To Hold Even After Dropping Out Of The 2016 GOP Primary

In 2016, Rubio Contended That Trump Was Dangerous And Could Not Be Trusted With America's Nuclear Codes – A Position He Continued To Hold Even After Dropping Out Of The 2016 GOP Primary. "About a month ago, Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) was reminded that during his failed presidential campaign, he told voters that Donald Trump shouldn't be given access to nuclear codes because he lacked the necessary judgment and temperament. "I stand by the things that I said," Rubio replied, shortly before saying he'll support Trump's candidacy anyway. Yesterday, the Weekly Standard's John McCormack talked to the Florida senator about the same issue, and received a very similar response. 'One month after announcing his support for Donald Trump, Marco Rubio still believes that the presumptive GOP nominee is unfit to be commander-in-chief. "I stand by everything I said during the campaign," the Florida senator told THE WEEKLY STANDARD on Thursday when asked if he still believes Trump cannot be trusted with access to the country's nuclear weapons codes. During the campaign, Rubio said that Trump was "dangerous" and that we must not hand "the nuclear codes of the United States to an erratic individual.'' Rubio doesn't seem to understand why this posture is untenable. Perhaps I can help. Stepping back, one of the challenges for Republicans with the controversy surrounding Judge Gonzalo Curiel is that the entire story is a trap of sorts from which there is no easy escape.

If GOP officials acknowledge Trump's racism, they're effectively saying they want a racist in the White House. If they deny Trump's racism, they look like cowards. It's why so many GOP officials have tried to get creative while walking a fine line, with varying degrees of success. Rubio's challenge, meanwhile, is every bit as dramatic, if not more so." (MSNBC, 6/10/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Offered Several Other Criticisms Regarding Trump's Alleged Danger For The World

On Social Media, Rubio Offered Several Other Criticisms Regarding Trump's Alleged Danger For The World. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 1, 2016
I've been making jokes on the trail, but here's the scary reality. Donald Trump is dangerous — and here's why: rub.io/nkdPtJ
519
1.1K
1.6K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO PROMOTED CRITICISMS OF TRUMP'S PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS (AD HOMINEM ATTACKS)

During The 2016 Campaign, Rubio Made "Fun Of Trump's Tan, His Hair And Ultimately The Size Of His Hands — A Veiled Jab At Trump's Manhood"

During The 2016 Campaign, Rubio Made "Fun Of Trump's Tan, His Hair And Ultimately The Size Of His Hands — A Veiled Jab At Trump's Manhood." "Rubio's sudden shift to aggressively attacking Trump one week before the Super Tuesday primary contests saw the candidate mock Trump on the debate stage and during nearly every one of his stump speeches following. The attacks took a personal turn, with Rubio making fun of Trump's tan, his hair and ultimately the size of his hands — a veiled jab at Trump's manhood — at a rally shortly before voters went to the polls that week. The strategy won him wall-to-wall media coverage but did little to cement Rubio as the anointed alternative to Trump. Indeed, it appears to have hurt him, as he struggled to overcome Ted Cruz during the Super Tuesday contests and his support has since cratered, resulting in disappointing finishes in primaries across the nation over the past week. Some Republicans have criticized Rubio for "damaging the image of the Republican Party," as major Republican donor Fred Malek put it on MSNBC this week. Rubio's comments Wednesday were an implicit acknowledgment that the strategy didn't work, and he has since shifted away from personal attacks on Trump in favor of more policy-focused fare. But he insisted that it was "appropriate" to point out that Trump is "portraying himself as something he's not," a central focus of his argument against the GOP frontrunner." (NBC News, 3/9/16)

- **"Marco Rubio Again Unleashed An Array Of Sharp Attacks On Republican Frontrunner Donald Trump, Jabbing At His "Small Hands" And "Spray Tan."'"** "Marco Rubio again unleashed an array of sharp attacks on Republican frontrunner Donald Trump, jabbing at his "small hands" and "spray tan." In response to the property mogul calling him "little Rubio," Rubio conceded that Trump was taller than him.

However, the Florida senator suggested Trump had small hands for his height. "And you know what they say about guys with small hands," Rubio said with a smile, prompting stunned laughter from the crowd. After a brief pause he added: "You can't trust 'em!" The crowd responded with applause. Rubio also targeted Trump's notorious tan, saying he "doesn't sweat because his pores are clogged from the spray tan. "Donald Trump isn't gonna make America great, he's gonna make America orange," he said. The remarks came at an energetic rally at a university in Salem, Virginia, where the young crowd screamed and cheered at every attack line Rubio landed. It was a notable shift in tone from earlier in the day, when Rubio largely laid off the personal attacks on Trump in favor of a focus on his failed business deals and lack of policy proposals." (NBC News, 2/29/16)

Rubio Suggested Trump Once Wet His Pants After Debating Him

Rubio Suggested Trump Once Wet His Pants After Debating Him. "It was not the only time Rubio seized on Trump's reliance on foreign labor for some of his properties. As Rubio recalled his parents' immigrant experience, he noted his "mother was a maid, the kind of people Donald Trump hires from other countries." Rubio also saved some ridicule for Trump's performance at the debate. Rubio suggested Trump had a "meltdown" during a commercial break, scrambling to get rid of a "sweat mustache" he developed and demanding a full-length mirror for an unknown reason. "Maybe to make sure his pants weren't wet — I don't know," Rubio said. Rubio's Trump criticism, which garnered rowdy reaction here at Klyde Warren Park in downtown Dallas, took a turn for the serious more than once. He blamed the media for propping up Trump in an effort to push him into the general election, where the billionaire's critics believe he will lose against the Democrats' pick. "We cannot nominate someone's who's going to be shredded to pieces, " Rubio said." (*Texas Tribune*, 2/26/16)

NOTE: In March 2016, "Marco Rubio Said Wednesday He's 'Not Entirely Proud' Of His Personal Attacks On Donald Trump And Wouldn't Have Launched Them If He Could Do Things Over Again"

NOTE: In March 2016, "Marco Rubio Said Wednesday He's "Not Entirely Proud" Of His Personal Attacks On Donald Trump And Wouldn't Have Launched Them If He Could Do Things Over Again." "Marco Rubio said Wednesday he's "not entirely proud" of his personal attacks on Donald Trump and wouldn't have launched them if he could do things over again. "In terms of things that have to do with personal stuff, yeah, at the end of the day it's not something I'm entirely proud of. My kids were embarrassed by it, and if I had to do it again I wouldn't," he said in a town hall airing Wednesday at 8 p.m. ET on MSNBC." (NBC News, 3/9/16)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO PROMOTED CRITICISMS OF TRUMP'S CHARACTER AND BUSINESS RECORD

In 2016, Rubio Did Not Disavow Trump After His Access Hollywood Comments But Noted "I Ran Against Donald Trump. And While I Respect That Voters Chose Him As The GOP Nominee, I Have Never Hesitated To Oppose His Policies I Disagree With. And I Have Consistently Rejected His Offensive Rhetoric And Behavior. I Disagree With Him On Many Things…"

In 2016, Rubio Did Not Disavow Trump After His Access Hollywood Comments But Noted "I Ran Against Donald Trump. And While I Respect That Voters Chose Him As The GOP Nominee, I Have Never Hesitated To Oppose His Policies I Disagree With. And I Have Consistently Rejected His Offensive Rhetoric And Behavior. I Disagree With Him On Many Things…" "GOP Sen. Marco Rubio is standing by Donald Trump. Breaking several days of silence, the Rubio campaign issued a statement Tuesday responding to reporters who had been asking whether the release Friday of a 2005 Access Hollywood tape of Trump making lurid and suggestive comments about women would prompt him to stop supporting the Republican presidential nominee. In a word, no. Here's the statement: "I ran against Donald Trump. And while I respect that voters chose him as the GOP nominee, I have never hesitated to oppose his policies I disagree with. And I have consistently rejected his offensive rhetoric and behavior. I disagree with him on many things, but I disagree with his opponent on virtually everything. "I wish we had better choices for President. But I do not want Hillary Clinton to be our next President. And therefore my position has not changed.' It's essentially what Rubio has been saying for months, ever since Trump wrapped up the nomination earlier this year. And while the Florida senator who is seeking re-election on the same ballot with Trump has said he has no plans to campaign with the billionaire, Rubio also hasn't gone out of his way to disparage him." (USA Today, 10/11/16)

In 2016, Rubio Alleged Trump Was A "Con Artist" Who "Has Spent His Entire Career Sticking It To The Little Guy"

In 2016, Rubio Alleged Trump Was A "Con Artist" Who "Has Spent His Entire Career Sticking It To The Little Guy." "Marco Rubio on Friday unleashed a full-frontal assault against Donald Trump, blasting him as a "con artist" who is hijacking the conservative movement and mercilessly mocking Trump's alpha-male status. At a rally here, the U.S. senator from Florida unveiled what amounted to his most comprehensive — and scathing — critique of Trump yet, declaring it "time to pull off his mask so that people can see what we are dealing with here." "He is a con artist," Rubio said. "He runs on this idea he is fighting for the little guy, but he has spent his entire career sticking it to the little guy — his entire career." Rubio's full-throated offensive came the morning after he and Ted Cruz teamed up against Trump at the 10th Republican debate in Houston. Rubio specifically pounced on Trump's hiring of foreign workers and his now-defunct Trump University, both examples Rubio cited here as he argued the billionaire is doing a "con job" on voters. "He's going to Americans that are struggling, that are hurting, and he's implying, 'I'm fighting for you because I'm a tough guy,'" Rubio said. "A tough guy? This guy inherited $200 million. He's never faced any struggle." Rubio added: "The other day, he told a

protester, 'I'm going to punch you in the face.' Donald Trump has never punched anyone in the face. Donald Trump was the first guy that begged for Secret Service protection." Appearing later Friday morning in nearby Fort Worth, Trump called Rubio's tirade a sign of desperation that shows the Florida senator is not "presidential material." Trump also took issue with a number of Rubio's claims, including that Trump inherited $200 million and that his vodka line went out of business. "I used to call Ted Cruz a liar, but now I'll also call Marco Rubio" a liar, Trump told reporters before the start of his own rally at the Fort Worth Convention Center. At one point in his rally, Rubio pulled out his phone and read from the stage a series of misspelled tweets Trump had sent earlier in the morning. The tweets, one of which called Rubio a "leightweight chocker," prompted the Florida senator to offer two theories for the spelling errors. "No. 1, that's how they spell those words at the Wharton School of Business," Rubio said, referring to Trump's oft-touted alma mater, "or No. 2, just like the Trump Tower, he relies on a foreign worker to do his own tweets.'" (*Texas Tribune*, 2/26/16)

- **"As He Wound Down His Trump Rampage, Rubio Made A Direct Appeal To Texans. "You All Have Friends That Are Thinking About Voting For Donald Trump," Rubio Said. "Friends Do Not Let Friends Vote For Con Artists.'"** (*Texas Tribune*, 2/26/16)

VIDEO: Rubio: "Donald J. Trump Is A Political Con Man ... He's Trying To Take Over The Party Of Reagan And The Conservative Movement – We Can't Let That Happen"

VIDEO: Rubio: "Donald J. Trump Is A Political Con Man ... He's Trying To Take Over The Party Of Reagan And The Conservative Movement – We Can't Let That Happen." (Facebook, 2/26/16)


Fox News
February 26, 2016
"Donald J. Trump is a political con man ... He's trying to take over the party of Reagan and the conservative movement – we can't let that happen."
Tonight on "Special Report with Bret Baier," Marco Rubio responded to Chris Christie's endorsement of Trump and last night's #GOPDebate. http://bit.ly/21oaZFH
RUBIO REACTS TO CHRISTIE ENDORSING DONALD TRUMP
SPECIAL REPORT
6.9K
7K comments 828 shares

(Facebook, 2/26/16)

VIDEO: Rubio, On Trump: "He's Not A Conservative. But More Importantly, He's A Con"

VIDEO: Rubio, On Trump: "He's Not A Conservative. But More Importantly, He's A Con." (Facebook, 2/26/16)



(Facebook, 2/26/16)

VIDEO: Rubio: "If Donald J. Trump Is President, He's Not Going To Make America Great. He's Going To Make America Broke"

VIDEO: Rubio: "If Donald J. Trump Is President, He's Not Going To Make America Great. He's Going To Make America Broke." (Facebook, 2/28/16)


Fox News
February 28, 2016
"If Donald J. Trump is president, he's not going to make America great. He's going to make America broke." – Marco Rubio
marcorubio.com
FOX NEWS SUNDAY
RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE
RUBIO'S PERSONAL FINANCES
13K
13.7K comments 3.4K shares

(Facebook, 2/28/16)

Rubio: "Donald Trump Has Been Perhaps The Most Vulgar – No I Don't Think Perhaps – The Most Vulgar Person To Ever Aspire To The Presidency…"

"Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Said Friday That Donald Trump Is The Most Vulgar Person To Ever Run For President Of The United States. "Donald Trump Has Been Perhaps The Most Vulgar – No I Don't Think Perhaps – The Most Vulgar Person To Ever Aspire To The Presidency In Terms Of How He's Carried Out His Candidacy," He Told CNN's Alisyn Camerota On "New Day."'" "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio said Friday that Donald Trump is the most vulgar person to ever run for President of the United States. "Donald Trump has been perhaps the most vulgar – no I don't think perhaps – the most vulgar person to ever aspire to the presidency in terms of how he's carried out his candidacy," he told CNN's Alisyn Camerota on "New Day." The Florida senator was responding to a question about a moment during Thursday night's Republican presidential debate hosted by Fox News when Trump assured American voters that despite what Rubio suggested on the campaign trail, there was "no problem" with the size of his hands – or anything else. "Look at those hands, are they small hands?" the front-runner for the GOP presidential nomination said, raising them for viewers to see. "And, he referred to my hands – 'if they're small, something else must be small.' I guarantee you there's no problem. I guarantee." Rubio said Trump's vulgarity has prevented candidates from discussing the policies affecting the American people. "The majority of the questions had

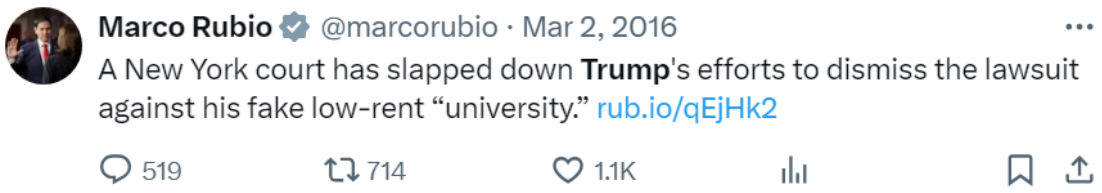
something to do with he said or she said," he said. "I would love to have a policy debate. I think that's important. We're talking about the presidency of the United States here." Rubio in recent days on the campaign trail ramped up his teasing of the brash billionaire, including reviving a decades-old old insult, mocking Trump for having relatively slight hands." (CNN, 3/4/16)

In 2016, "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio And Texas Sen. Ted Cruz Released Income And Federal Tax Data Saturday As Part Of An Attempt To Pressure Donald Trump, The Republican Presidential Front-Runner, To Do The Same"

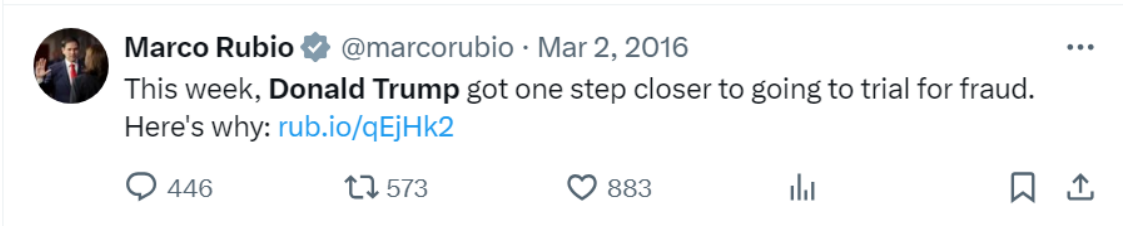
In 2016, "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio And Texas Sen. Ted Cruz Released Income And Federal Tax Data Saturday As Part Of An Attempt To Pressure Donald Trump, The Republican Presidential Front-Runner, To Do The Same." "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz released income and federal tax data Saturday as part of an attempt to pressure Donald Trump, the Republican presidential front-runner, to do the same. Rubio released five years' worth of financial information, saying the rates his family paid were in line with tax rates paid by Americans of similar income levels. And Cruz and his wife disclosed four years' worth, bringing in more income than did the Rubio family. But both campaigns only released the top lines of the forms, not the complete documents, providing only a limited look at their finances. Democrats and some Republicans quickly pounced on Rubio and Cruz for the limited release. The moves from Cruz and Rubio come as Trump is under pressure to release his tax returns. 2012 GOP nominee Mitt Romney warned there could be a "bombshell" in Trump's documents. Trump has so far declined to release his tax information, saying he's being audited. "It is time to stop the excuses," Cruz said in a statement. "If Donald is embarrassed about his tax returns, it's up to the voters to assess the facts." When asked about why only summaries were released, Cruz offered to disclose more information if other candidates did. "If Marco wants to release the complete thing for the recent years, I'm happy to do so as well and I would certainly encourage Donald Trump to do it, but we just did it to match what the other candidates are doing," Cruz told reporters. Rubio promised to release additional tax information in the future, but wanted to get the summaries out for the sake of time. "We'll do the rest too," Rubio told reporters. "We just wanted to get it out there quickly so people could see the summaries.'" (CNN, 2/7/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump For His Record On Trump University And Being A Fraud

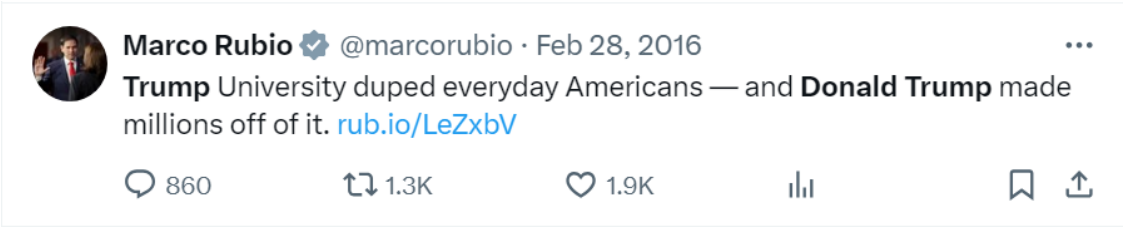
On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump For His Record On Trump University And Being A Fraud. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 2, 2016
A New York court has slapped down Trump's efforts to dismiss the lawsuit against his fake low-rent "university." rub.io/qEjHk2
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714
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(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 2, 2016
This week, Donald Trump got one step closer to going to trial for fraud.
Here's why: rub.io/qEjHk2
446
573
883

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Feb 28, 2016
Trump University duped everyday Americans — and Donald Trump made millions off of it. rub.io/LeZxbV
860
1.3K
1.9K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO PROMOTED CRITICISMS OF TRUMP'S RHETORIC ON RACE AND IMMIGRATION

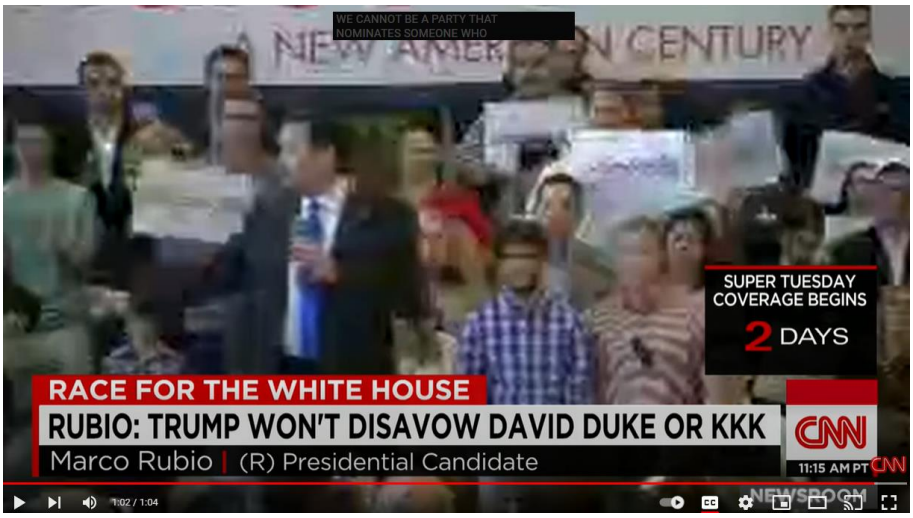
In 2015, Rubio Condemned Trump's Comments On Mexican Immigrants Noting "Trump's Comments Are Not Just Offensive And Inaccurate, But Also Divisive"

In 2015, Rubio Condemned Trump's Comments On Mexican Immigrants Noting "Trump's Comments Are Not Just Offensive And Inaccurate, But Also Divisive." "As controversy over his remarks about Mexican immigrants to the US continued to attract international condemnation and damage his commercial relationships, the White House hopeful Donald Trump drew heavy fire from Marco Rubio, a Hispanic member of the 14-strong GOP presidential field. On Friday, Rubio released a strongly worded statement which said: "Trump's comments are not just offensive and inaccurate, but also divisive." At the launch of his presidential campaign two weeks ago, Trump said: "[Mexico is] sending people that have lots of problems, and they are bringing those problems to us. They are bringing drugs, and bringing crime, and their rapists." The government of Mexico called the comments "prejudiced" and "absurd"; the Venezuelan president, Nicolás Maduro, said Trump was "mentally ill". Hispanic leaders in the US called on Republicans to condemn Trump's remarks. Many candidates have been cautious and relatively mild. The former Florida governor Jeb Bush, the frontrunner whose wife was born in Mexico and who speaks fluent Spanish, said Trump was "wrong" and added: "Maybe we'll have a chance to have an honest discussion about it onstage.' Trump, running second in some polls, is on course to appear onstage in the first Republican debate, which will be hosted in Cleveland by Fox on 6 August. Only the top 10 in the currently 14-strong GOP field will be allowed to participate. Rubio's statement continued: "Our next president needs to be someone who brings Americans together – not someone who continues to divide. Our broken immigration system is something that needs to be solved, and comments like this move us further from – not closer to – a solution. We need leaders who offer serious solutions to secure our border and fix our broken immigration system." On Saturday, speaking on the Fox & Friends morning show, Trump attacked Rubio for being "very weak on immigration". He also said the

former New York governor George Pataki, who has criticised his remarks, was “a sad figure” and “a terrible governor of New York” who had “zero numbers in the polls”. Trump said he “respected” the Texas senator Ted Cruz, who has defended his remarks on immigration. On Friday, Trump lost the support of another US institution when the chairman of Nascar said the auto-racing series would not host its season-end awards at his Trump National Doral resort in Miami.” (The Guardian, 7/4/15)

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Condemned Trump For Failing To Firmly Disavow The KKK And Contended It Made Him Unelectable

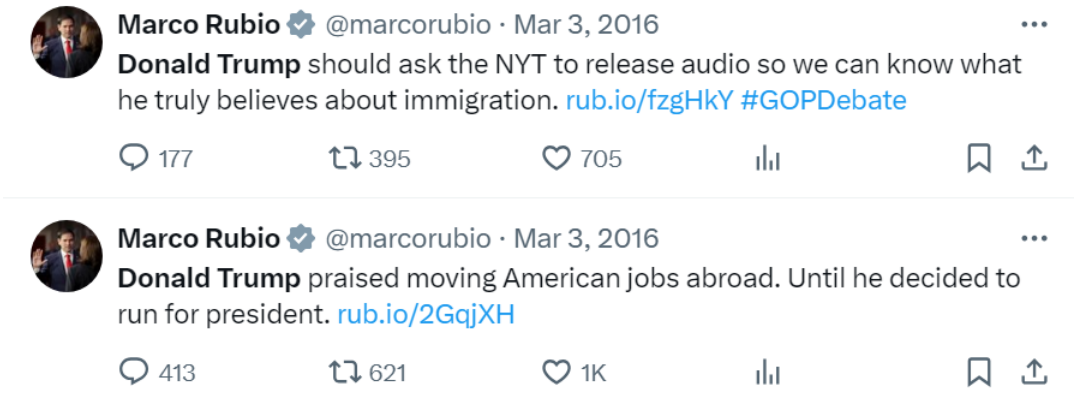
VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Condemned Trump For Failing To Firmly Disavow The KKK And Contended It Made Him Unelectable. (YouTube, 2/28/16)


WE CANNOT BE A PARTY THAT NOMINATES SOMEONE WHO
CENTURY
SUPER TUESDAY COVERAGE BEGINS
2 DAYS
RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE
RUBIO: TRUMP WON'T DISAVOW DAVID DUKE OR KKK
Marco Rubio | (R) Presidential Candidate
CNN
11:15 AM PT
NEWSROOM

(YouTube, 2/28/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump For Being A Hypocrite On Immigration

On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump For Being A Hypocrite On Immigration. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

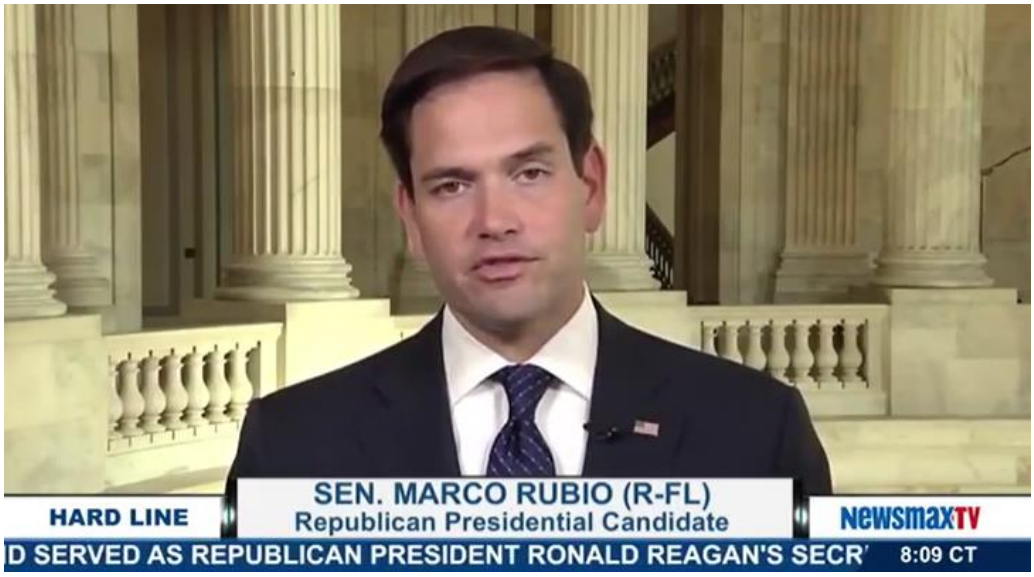

Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 3, 2016
Donald Trump should ask the NYT to release audio so we can know what he truly believes about immigration. rub.io/fzgHkY #GOPDebate
177
395
705
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 3, 2016
Donald Trump praised moving American jobs abroad. Until he decided to run for president. rub.io/2GqjXH
413
621
1K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO PROMOTED CRITICISMS OF TRUMP'S RHETORIC ON TERRORISM AND THE MILITARY

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Criticized Trump's Criticism Of Bush Over 9/11 And Claimed Trump "Doesn't Have A Fundamental Understanding Of What Caused 9/11"

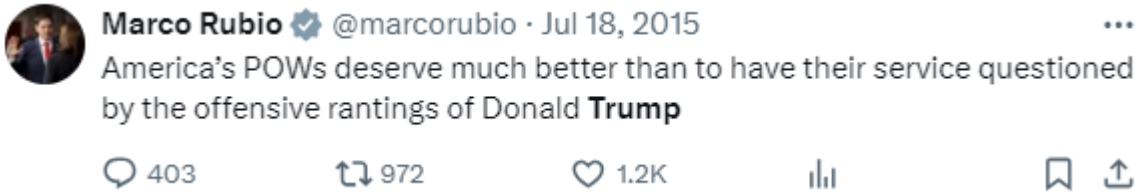
VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Criticized Trump's Criticism Of Bush Over 9/11 And Claimed Trump "Doesn't Have A Fundamental Understanding Of What Caused 9/11." "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio says his opponent Donald Trump is wrong to suggest President George W. Bush bears responsibility for the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, arguing that the majority of the failures that led to the deadly attacks should be attributed to President Bill Clinton's administration instead. "It's just not true, it's wrong. What he said is just not true," Rubio told NewsMaxTV The Hard Line with Ed Berliner on Wednesday about Trump. "The truth is that President George W. Bush inherited all sorts of things from the Clinton administration, including intelligence agencies and others who weren't doing a very good job that were not sharing information across agencies. Including a government that under President Clinton had not taken seriously al-Qaeda and the threat that they posed," Rubio continued, citing the attack on the U.S.S. Cole, the first World Trade Center bombing, and other terrorist attacks. For the past week, Trump has discussed the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, specifically noting Bush was president during the attacks and had responsibility for them. Trump went as far saying the Bush administration was warned by the CIA director the attack was coming and did nothing. Rubio noted Bush had been in office for less than a year when the attacks happened. "As a result, President Bush was only in office nine months when this happened, but that plot to conduct 9/11 and the steps that it took to bring it about — those began well before he was even sworn into office," Rubio said. "It happened under the watch of President Clinton, in fact, the 9/11 Commission says that. If you look, all of their recommendations, many of them were about reversing mistakes that were made during the Clinton presidency." "He doesn't have a fundamental understanding of what caused 9/11," Rubio said of Trump." (Buzzfeed, 10/22/15)



(Buzzfeed, 10/22/15)

Rubio, In 2015: "America's POWs Deserve Much Better Than To Have Their Service Questioned By The Offensive Rantings Of Donald Trump"

Rubio, In 2015: "America's POWs Deserve Much Better Than To Have Their Service Questioned By The Offensive Rantings Of Donald Trump." (Twitter, 7/18/15)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 18, 2015
America's POWs deserve much better than to have their service questioned by the offensive rantings of Donald Trump
403
972
1.2K

(Twitter, 7/18/15)

Criticisms Of Trump's Muslim Policies And Comments

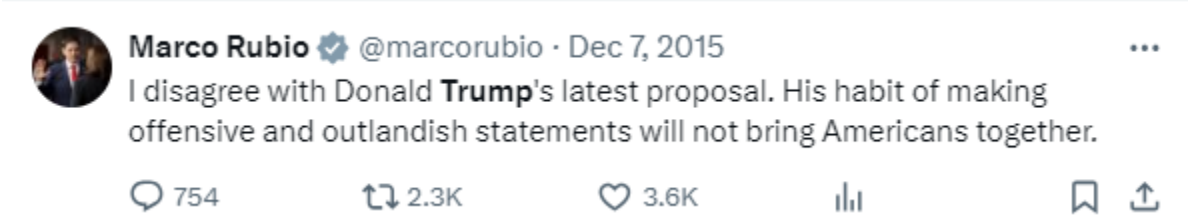
VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Condemns Trump's Anti-Muslim Rhetoric And Claims The Consequences Of His Actions Would Be Felt In The Military. "RUBIO (08:09): Well behind stage, we basically are interacting for 15 seconds before we walk on the stage. So that's that. As far as the, I did, I mean, I was asked a question about his comments on Islam, and I said exactly what I said to you right now. And that is that Presidents say whatever they want, whatever they want, and I describe the consequences that it has. How are you going to be the commander in chief of the United States Armed forces when you have men and women of the Muslim faith who service in uniform who could be killed in action? How are you going to be commander in chief when you know that are men and women in uniform have people there working with all over the world who are Muslim, who have taken great sacrifices at our behalf? There is a doctor in Pakistan who was a Muslim, who was involved in aiding the United States according to open press and our efforts to capture Osama bin Laden. (08:58) He was a Muslim. What do you say to him? He hated America. He's in jail today in Pakistan. There are people that have died who are Muslims, who have helped the United States as interpreters. There are servicemen and women in the United States who will tell you that they were injured in combat and Muslim families took them into their home and sheltered them until help could arrive. What do you say to missionaries who are all over the world operating in Muslim countries where Muslim families are protecting them or helping them even though they're not converting, they're helping them because they like them as persons and individuals. And now the message coming out of America from a leading presidential candidate is, I know you hate us and implying maybe we hate you. There are consequences to these words. There really are presidents and presidential candidates cannot just say anything they want. And I did say that at the debate, but do" (YouTube, 3/12/16)



(YouTube, 3/12/16)

In December 2015, "Donald Trump Made A Drastic Call On Monday For "A Total And Complete Shutdown Of Muslims Entering The United States Until Our Country's Representatives Can Figure Out What Is Going On." "Donald Trump made a drastic call on Monday for "a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on." Trump's call comes one day after President Obama's address from the Oval Office in the aftermath of the San Bernardino, Calif., shootings that were carried out by an apparently self-radicalized married couple. The male shooter was an American citizen, born in the United States. His wife was born in Pakistan but was in the U.S. legally on a visa for fiancees. At a rally in Mount Pleasant, S.C., Monday evening, Trump read the statement to loud cheers from the crowd. He repeated claims that Muslims around the world believe violence against Americans is justified and that they believe American Muslims should be allowed to live under sharia law. Trump also addressed how people can be radicalized online, suggesting "maybe in certain areas closing that Internet up in some way." He also repeated calls for surveillance on mosques in the U.S. "Yes, we have to look at mosques, and we have to respect mosques," he said. "Because something is happening in there. Man, there's anger, and we have to know about it." His appearance was interrupted by protesters several times, including when he was explaining his latest proposal on keeping Muslims from entering the country. At that point, Trump referred to the person interrupting his rally by saying, "That's alright. He sounds like he's very exhausted." Trump, the wealthy real estate magnate who remains atop the GOP presidential field, has faced backlash for previous statements against Muslims and, before that, Hispanics. Following terrorist attacks in Paris, Trump endorsed the idea of a database to register Muslims in the U.S., saying he would "strongly consider" shutting down some mosques." (NPR, 12/7/15)

- **Rubio Criticized Trump's Muslim Ban Noting "I Disagree With Donald Trump's Latest Proposal. His Habit Of Making Offensive And Outlandish Statements Will Not Bring Americans Together."** (Twitter, 12/7/15)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Dec 7, 2015
I disagree with Donald Trump's latest proposal. His habit of making offensive and outlandish statements will not bring Americans together.
754
2.3K
3.6K

(Twitter, 12/7/15)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO PROMOTED CRITICISMS OF TRUMP'S RECORD ON WORKERS

Rubio's 2016 Campaign Site Claimed "Donald Trump Puts American Workers Last"; The Site Promoted Opposition Research Attacking Trump's Record On Labor And His Companies' Various Worker Related Controversies

Rubio's 2016 Campaign Site Claimed "Donald Trump Puts American Workers Last"; The Site Promoted Opposition Research Attacking Trump's Record On Labor And His Companies' Various Worker Related Controversies. (Marco Rubio, Archived 3/22/16)



(Marco Rubio, Archived 3/22/16)

VIDEO: Rubio: "Trump Tower Was Built By Illegal Immigrants From Poland"

VIDEO: Rubio: "Trump Tower Was Built By Illegal Immigrants From Poland." (Facebook, 2/26/16)


Fox News
February 26, 2016
"Trump Tower was built by illegal immigrants from Poland." – Marco Rubio hit back at Donald J. Trump during a rally in Oklahoma City moments ago.
Rubio joins Bret Baier on 'Special Report' at 6p ET.
OKLAHOMA CITY
2:29 PM
marcorubio
Breaking
RUBIO: TRUMP TIES ARE MADE IN CHINA AND MEXICO
Jonathan Robert Mattner and 12K others
9.7K comments 3K shares

(Facebook, 2/26/16)

RUBIO WAS KNOWN TO HAVE SKIPPED THE 2016 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION DESPITE ENDORSING TRUMP

In May 2016, Rubio "Told Reporters He'll Not Only Vote For Trump, He'd Be Willing To Speak On His Behalf At The Republican National Convention In Cleveland"

In May 2016, Rubio "Told Reporters He'll Not Only Vote For Trump, He'd Be Willing To Speak On His Behalf At The Republican National Convention In Cleveland." "In March, Marco Rubio dismissed Donald Trump as a "con artist" and "the most vulgar person ever to aspire to the presidency." This past week, the Florida senator told reporters he'll not only vote for Trump, he'd be willing to speak on his behalf at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland this summer. And he didn't rule out the possibility of serving in a Trump administration. Rubio said his apparent shift isn't that hard to understand. Supporting Trump as the presumptive GOP presidential nominee is an easy choice, he said, compared to the prospect of a Hillary Clinton victory at the polls in November. "Donald Trump will sign the repeal of Obamacare. She won't," Rubio told reporters Thursday. "I want the successor to Antonin Scalia on the Supreme Court to be a conservative. I believe that's the kind of judge that he'll appoint, and I know she won't. I want someone that will defend life. I know he will and she won't." Rubio said Trump earned his status as the GOP presumptive nominee at the ballot box. "He campaigned and the voters chose him," he said. "I respect that process. And so I'm going to support him. I'm going to vote for him." Social media, of course, won't let him off the hook that easily. "Rubio is truly a politician with no ideas, just a jumble of crap, ready to support any position, person, anything to help him get ahead," progressive radio talk show host Mike Signorile tweeted. "Stop Excusing Republicans Like Rubio For Supporting Trump Because Of A

Stupid, Worthless Pledge," tweeted the conservative blog Red State, referring to Rubio's frequent promise during the campaign to get behind the eventual nominee. While Rubio was still a presidential contender, his rivalry with Trump featured highly charged, personal attacks. Trump, mocked the Florida senator as "Little Marco" and poked fun at his tendency to sweat on the debate stage and drink lots of water. Rubio said Trump was unfit for the Oval Office, citing his inflammatory rhetoric, his past support for Democratic policies and his call for deporting undocumented immigrants. He also criticized Trump's physical features: "You know what they say about men with small hands ... You can't trust them." But Rubio also consistently said he would support whomever Republican voters nominated. And on Thursday, the Associated Press announced that Trump had captured the 1,237 delegates necessary to lock up the nomination. Despite the heated campaign, Rubio said it's time to move on. "We were competitors," he said of Trump. "I don't dislike him. I don't have any negative feelings about him personally. I disagree with a lot of his positions. That was well established during the campaign. (But) I also think he happens to be substantially better than Hillary Clinton." Al Cardenas, former head of the Florida Republican Party and a Rubio confidante, said the possibility that he and many other Republicans will support Trump is a "work in progress." But he's not willing to judge Rubio. "It's a fairly quick turnaround in his conversion to becoming a supporter, but so be it," said Cardenas, former chairman of the American Conservative Union. "I'm still not there. I guess Marco figured out a way to get there.'" (*USA Today*, 5/27/16)

Previously, Rubio Had Been Reluctant To Endorse Trump In April 2016 And Had Been Signaling His Support For Ted Cruz After Dropping Out

Previously, Rubio Had Been Reluctant To Endorse Trump In April 2016 And Had Been Signaling His Support For Ted Cruz After Dropping Out. "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Tuesday endorsed Texas senator and Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz for president, sort of. In one of his first interviews since dropping out of the presidential race, Rubio sat down with conservative host Mark Levin for a video podcast to discuss a wide range of issues, including who he believes should be president. "I hope that they'll nominate a conservative," Rubio said. "The only one [presidential candidate] that fits that criteria is Ted Cruz." Rubio also slammed the Republican debates and the way they were promoted as reality TV. "Who is going to get voted off the island this week?" Rubio said. Despite Rubio's half-hearted endorsement of the Texas senator, he has not completely withdrawn from the race. By suspending his campaign, the delegates he collected during the primary will still be bound to him on the first ballot of an open convention. Rubio also shouted down any speculation that he could be Donald Trump's vice presidential pick, after the billionaire said he would consider Rubio to be on his ticket "I'm not going to be the vice president," the Florida senator said." (ABC News, 4/13/16)

In July 2016, Rubio Noted He Would Not Be Attending The 2016 RNC Citing Campaign Events

In July 2016, Rubio Noted He Would Not Be Attending The 2016 RNC Citing Campaign Events. "Marco Rubio, former rival to presumptive GOP nominee Donald Trump, will skip the Republican National Convention. "Marco had planned to go to the convention before he decided to seek re-election," Rubio Senate campaign spokeswoman Olivia Perez-Cubas said in a statement. "Since Marco got into the race late, he will be in Florida campaigning and meeting

with voters instead of going to Ohio." Rubio has not distanced himself from his rebukes of Trump, including saying that he could not trust him with the nuclear codes. But he has reluctantly endorsed him, heralding him as better than the alternative, Hillary Clinton. Rubio had suggested when he entered the Senate race that this decision was coming. "I'll have to re-examine that now that I have a campaign to run in Florida. I'll have to spend a lot more time there and a lot less time -- I'll have a lot less free time," he told CNN's Manu Raju." (CNN, 7/6/16)

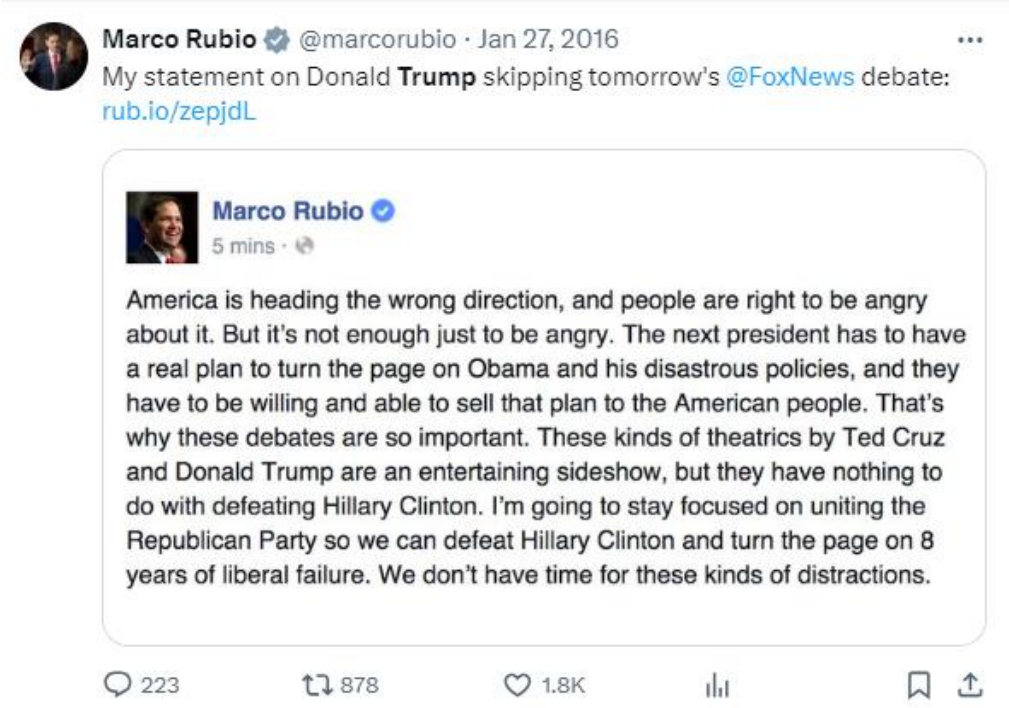
DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, RUBIO PROMOTED A SLEW OF ADDITIONAL CRITICISMS OF TRUMP

In 2015, "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Bashed GOP Front-Runner Donald Trump A Day After The Real Estate Mogul Called The Use Of Eminent Domain 'Wonderful'"

In 2015, "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Bashed GOP Front-Runner Donald Trump A Day After The Real Estate Mogul Called The Use Of Eminent Domain 'Wonderful.'" "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio bashed GOP front-runner Donald Trump a day after the real estate mogul called the use of eminent domain "wonderful." After a campaign stop at a tech company in New Hampshire, Rubio told The Weekly Standard that Trump is "wrong" on the issue, adding that private property is "one of the most important rights" given to Americans. "He's wrong," Rubio said. "In Florida, when I was a state legislator, we passed what has become model legislation for other states around the country — that I actually passed — both a law and a constitutional amendment that keeps developers like Donald Trump from using eminent domain to take private property away from an owner and give it to another private owner, which is what the Kelo decision said should be legal unless states barred it. "So he's wrong about that," Rubio said. "One of the most important rights Americans have is private property." The Florida senator's comments come a day after Trump defended the practice, especially in instances where the creation of "massive jobs" is at stake. "I think eminent domain is wonderful. If you're building a highway … and you're going to be blocked by a hold-out — I think eminent domain for massive projects — for instance you're going to create massive jobs and you have somebody that's in the way, and you pay that person far more … is fine," Trump told Fox News' Bret Baier Tuesday. Trump remains in first place in the Washington Examiner's power rankings while Rubio is in fourth." (Washington Examiner, 10/7/15)

In January 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump As A Distraction And "Entertaining Sideshow" For Skipping A Debate

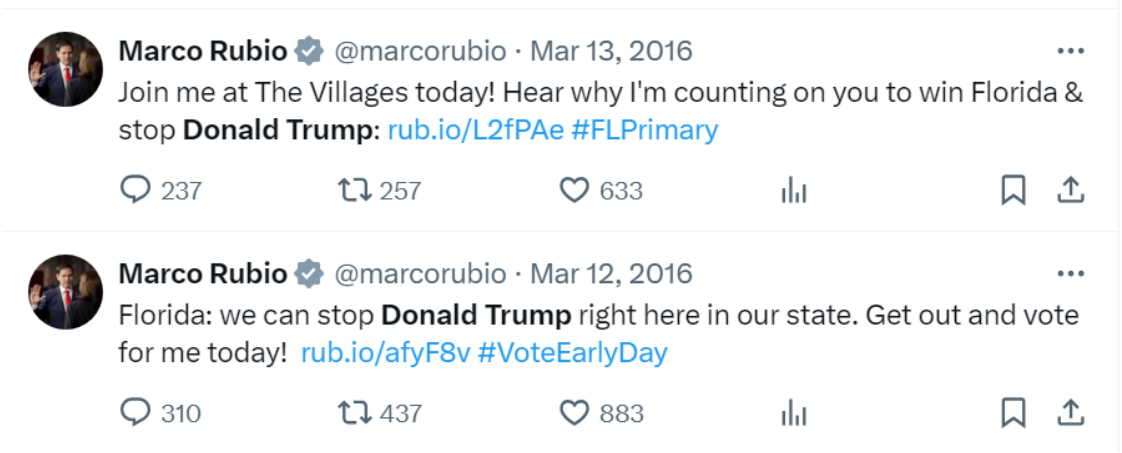
In January 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump As A Distraction And "Entertaining Sideshow" For Skipping A Debate. (Twitter, 1/27/16)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jan 27, 2016
My statement on Donald Trump skipping tomorrow's @FoxNews debate:
rub.io/zepjdL
Marco Rubio
5 mins ·
America is heading the wrong direction, and people are right to be angry about it. But it's not enough just to be angry. The next president has to have a real plan to turn the page on Obama and his disastrous policies, and they have to be willing and able to sell that plan to the American people. That's why these debates are so important. These kinds of theatrics by Ted Cruz and Donald Trump are an entertaining sideshow, but they have nothing to do with defeating Hillary Clinton. I'm going to stay focused on uniting the Republican Party so we can defeat Hillary Clinton and turn the page on 8 years of liberal failure. We don't have time for these kinds of distractions.
223
878
1.8K

(Twitter, 1/27/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Called Several Times For Voters To "Stop Trump"

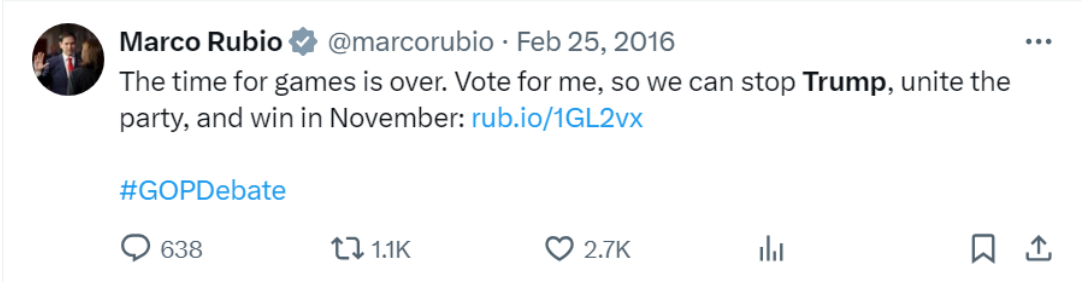
On Social Media, Rubio Called Several Times For Voters To "Stop Trump." (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 13, 2016
Join me at The Villages today! Hear why I'm counting on you to win Florida & stop Donald Trump: rub.io/L2fPAe #FLPrimary
237
257
633
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 12, 2016
Florida: we can stop Donald Trump right here in our state. Get out and vote for me today! rub.io/afyF8v #VoteEarlyDay
310
437
883

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 10, 2016
Two new polls show that the race in Florida is closer than ever. Join our team and help us stop Donald Trump: rub.io/Koa4WJ
247 394 912
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 10, 2016
FLORIDA: Together we can stop Donald Trump in our state. Vote early and then get your friends & family to vote too. rub.io/KdhDne
230 543 1.1K
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 10, 2016
If you are truly committed to denying Donald Trump 99 delegates in the state of Florida, you should vote for me.
youtube.com
Marco: A Vote For Cruz And Kasich In FL Is A Vote For
Marco makes his case on a special Kelly File town hall.--SUBSCRIBE for the latest news and updates ...
345 460 901

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Feb 25, 2016
The time for games is over. Vote for me, so we can stop Trump, unite the party, and win in November: rub.io/1GL2vx
#GOPDebate
638 1.1K 2.7K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

DURING THE 2016 CAMPAIGN, TRUMP WAS KNOWN TO PROMOTE CRITICISMS AGAINST RUBIO

Trump, In 2016: "I Will Be Using Facebook And Twitter To Expose Dishonest Lightweight Senator Marco Rubio. A Record No-Show In Senate, He Is Scamming Florida"

Trump, In 2016: "I Will Be Using Facebook And Twitter To Expose Dishonest Lightweight Senator Marco Rubio. A Record No-Show In Senate, He Is Scamming Florida." "Donald Trump has promised an all-out campaign on Twitter and Facebook to sink Marco Rubio's floundering bid once and for all, eight days before voters in Florida could decide the political

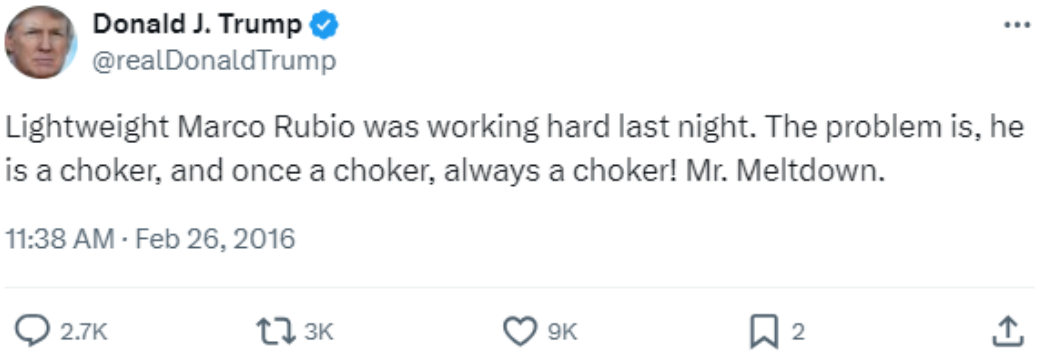
future of the freshman senator. "How do you fight millions of dollars of fraudulent commercials pushing for crooked politicians? I will be using Facebook & Twitter. Watch!" Trump teased on Twitter Sunday evening. After two tweets attacking former presidential opponent Lindsey Graham early Monday morning, Trump returned to his line of attack, tweeting, "I will be using Facebook and Twitter to expose dishonest lightweight Senator Marco Rubio. A record no-show in Senate, he is scamming Florida.'" (*Politico*, 3/7/16)

In 2016, Trump "Laced Into Rubio As 'Even Worse' Than Ted Cruz, Calling The Florida Senator 'Such A Scoundrel'"

In 2016, Trump "Laced Into Rubio As 'Even Worse' Than Ted Cruz, Calling The Florida Senator 'Such A Scoundrel.'" "Trump then boasted of the WGC-Cadillac golf championship that concluded Sunday at his Doral, Florida course, before departing for a Concord, North Carolina, rally. Two hours later, Trump beseeched his followers to not believe "the millions of dollars of phony television ads by lightweight Rubio" and the Republican establishment. "Dishonest people!" he tweeted. At the Concord rally, Trump laced into Rubio as "even worse" than Ted Cruz, calling the Florida senator "such a scoundrel." "I mean, I'll tell you what — what he's done, I cannot believe he got away with it, but we'll expose it and see what happens," Trump said, waving his right hand. "But this guy is a disaster, on top of which he's a choker." Rubio drew Trump's attention over the last several weeks after the Florida senator took a page from the Manhattan business mogul's playbook and began mocking his opponent's "small hands," suggesting they could be indicative of a part of his lower anatomy, and attacking past business dealings, particularly with Trump University." (*Politico*, 3/7/16)

Trump: "Lightweight Marco Rubio Was Working Hard Last Night. The Problem Is, He Is A Choker, And Once A Choker, Always A Choker! Mr. Meltdown"

Trump: "Lightweight Marco Rubio Was Working Hard Last Night. The Problem Is, He Is A Choker, And Once A Choker, Always A Choker! Mr. Meltdown." (Twitter, 2/26/16)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump
Lightweight Marco Rubio was working hard last night. The problem is, he is a choker, and once a choker, always a choker! Mr. Meltdown.
11:38 AM · Feb 26, 2016
2.7K
3K
9K
2

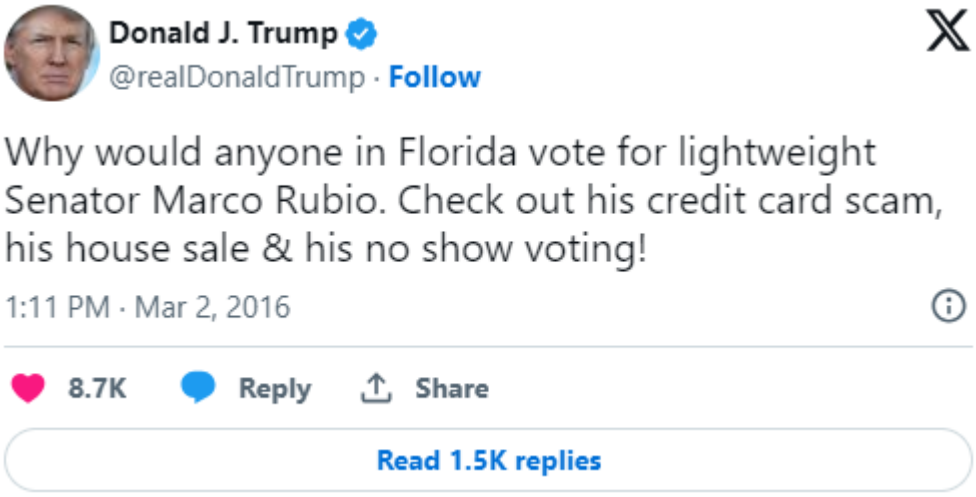
(Twitter, 2/26/16)

NOTE: Trump Has Issued Several Other Tweets During The 2016 GOP Primary Criticizing And Attacking Rubio, Including The Following Examples

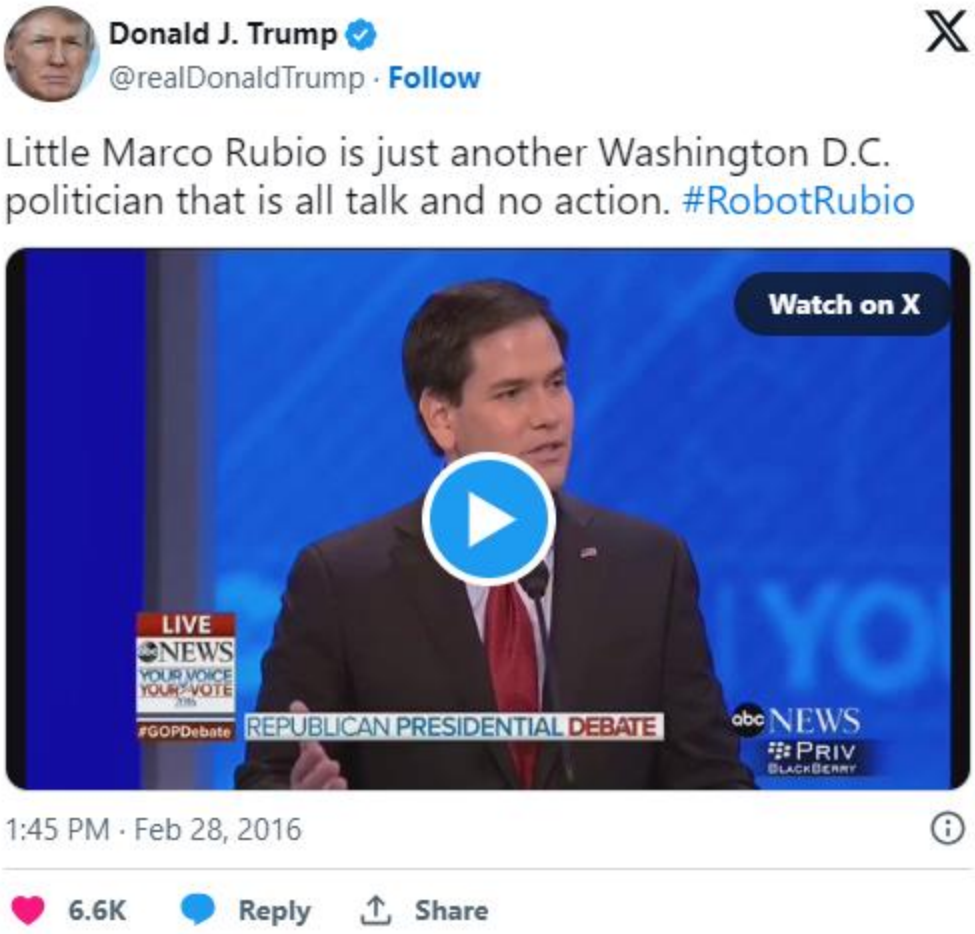
NOTE: Trump Has Issued Several Other Tweets During The 2016 GOP Primary Criticizing And Attacking Rubio, Including The Following Examples. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
.@FoxNews is devastated that lightweight Senator Marco Rubio got trounced tonight and is the big loser. I won the two big states, great!
12:40 AM · Mar 6, 2016
12.4K
Reply
Share
Read 2K replies

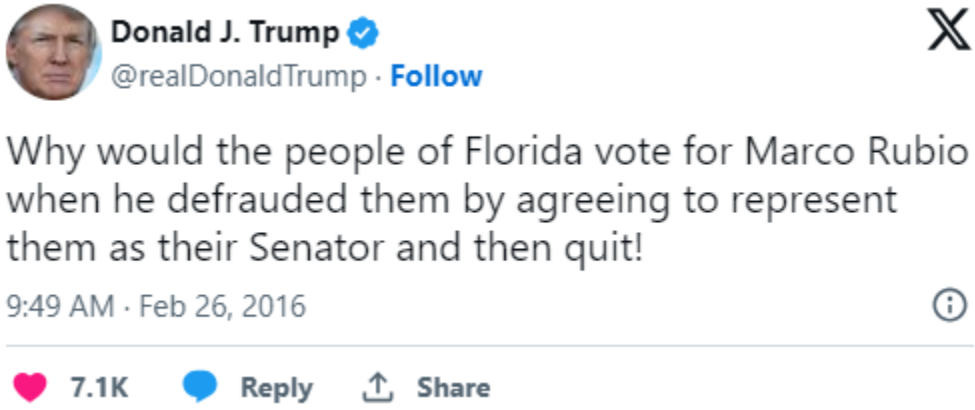
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Why would anyone in Florida vote for lightweight Senator Marco Rubio. Check out his credit card scam, his house sale & his no show voting!
1:11 PM · Mar 2, 2016
8.7K
Reply
Share
Read 1.5K replies

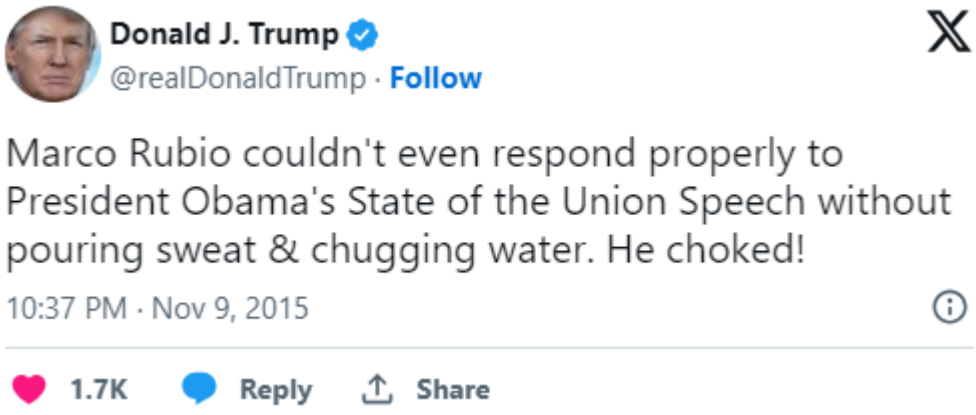
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)



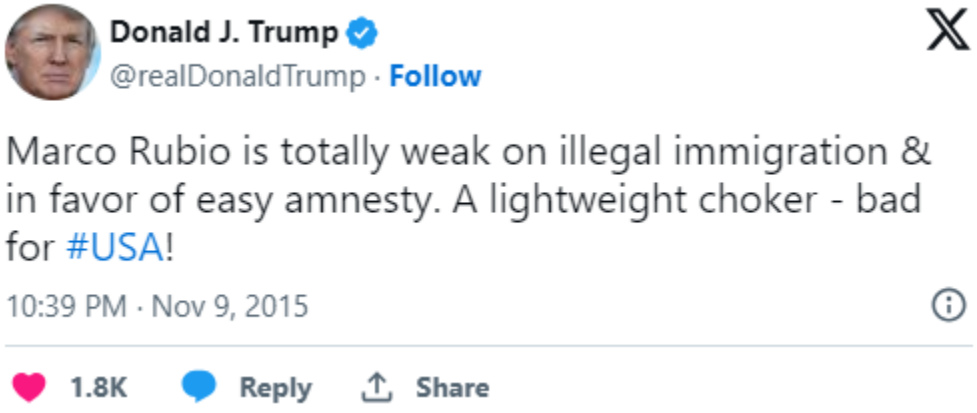
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Why would the people of Florida vote for Marco Rubio when he defrauded them by agreeing to represent them as their Senator and then quit!
9:49 AM · Feb 26, 2016
7.1K
Reply
Share

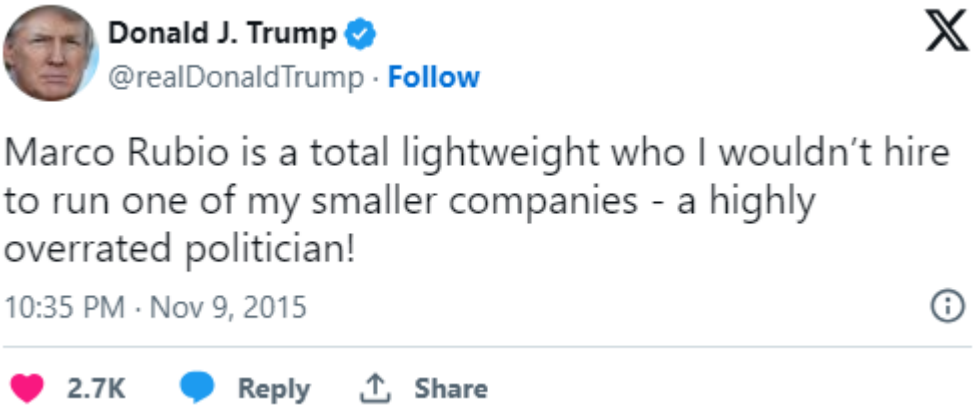
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio couldn't even respond properly to President Obama's State of the Union Speech without pouring sweat & chugging water. He choked!
10:37 PM · Nov 9, 2015
1.7K
Reply
Share

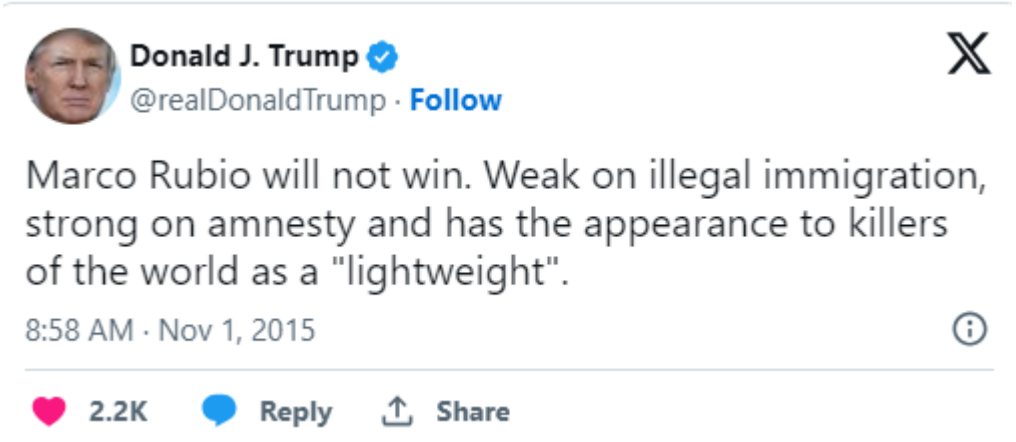
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio is totally weak on illegal immigration & in favor of easy amnesty. A lightweight choker - bad for #USA!
10:39 PM · Nov 9, 2015
1.8K
Reply
Share

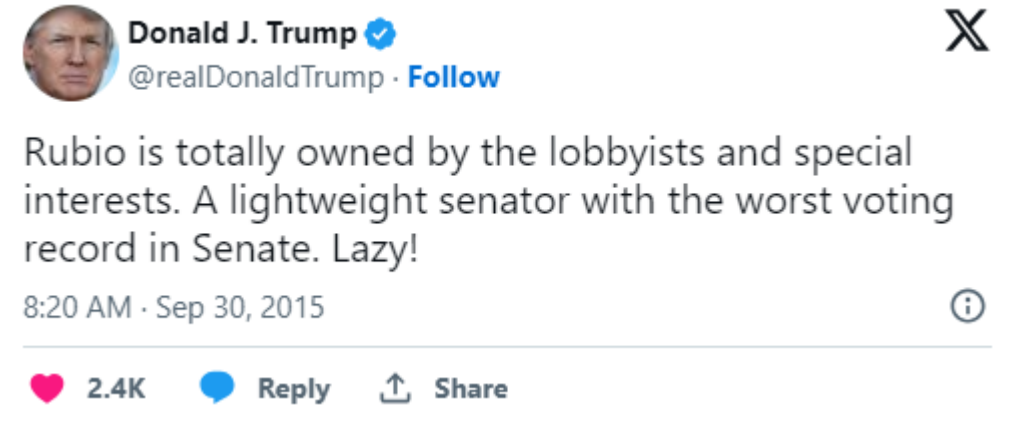
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio is a total lightweight who I wouldn't hire to run one of my smaller companies - a highly overrated politician!
10:35 PM · Nov 9, 2015
2.7K
Reply
Share

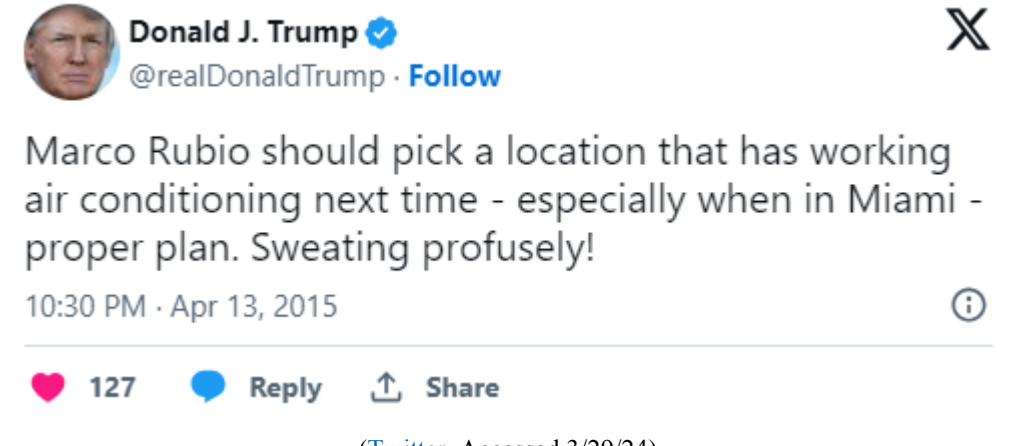
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio will not win. Weak on illegal immigration, strong on amnesty and has the appearance to killers of the world as a "lightweight".
8:58 AM · Nov 1, 2015
2.2K
Reply
Share

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Rubio is totally owned by the lobbyists and special interests. A lightweight senator with the worst voting record in Senate. Lazy!
8:20 AM · Sep 30, 2015
2.4K
Reply
Share

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio should pick a location that has working air conditioning next time - especially when in Miami - proper plan. Sweating profusely!
10:30 PM · Apr 13, 2015
127
Reply
Share

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio's Widely Panned SOTU Response During Which Rubio Awkwardly Drank Water

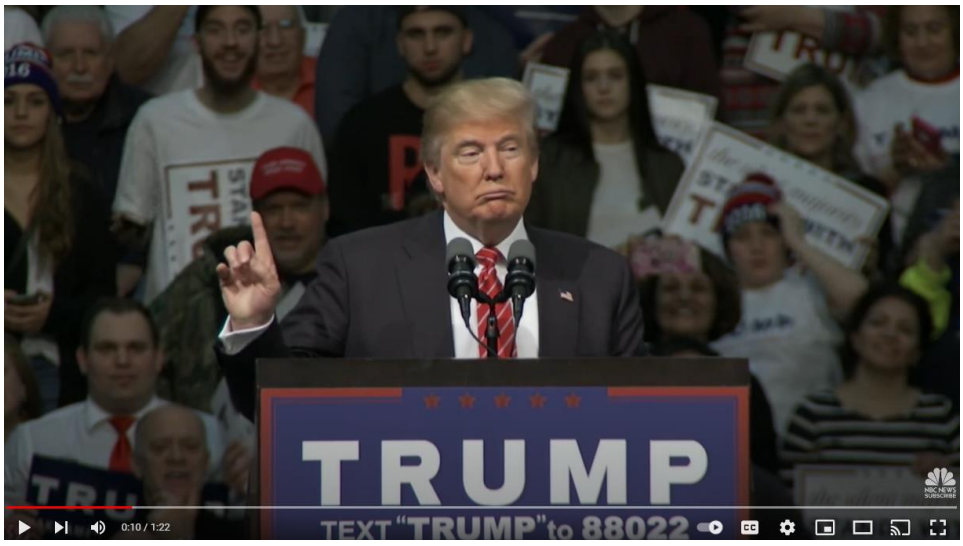
VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio's Widely Panned SOTU Response During Which Rubio Awkwardly Drank Water. (Facebook, 2/26/16)


Fox News
February 23, 2016
"It's Rubio!" Watch Donald J. Trump use a water bottle to mock Marco Rubio at a rally in Texas.
FORT WORTH, TX
12:57 PM CT
NJ GOV CHRIS CHRISTIE ENDORSES
DONALD TRUMP FOR PRESIDENT
17K
8.8K comments 3.4K shares

(Facebook, 2/26/16)

VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio As "Little Marco"

VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio As "Little Marco." (YouTube, 3/4/16)



(YouTube, 3/4/16)

VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio As A "Choke Artist"

VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio As A "Choke Artist." (YouTube, 2/25/16)



(YouTube, 2/25/16)

FOLLOWING THE 2016 PRIMARY, RUBIO STILL EXPRESSED CRITICISM OF TRUMP'S RHETORIC ON RACE

In June 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump's Racial Attacks Against Judge Gonzalo Curiel

In June 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump's Racial Attacks Against Judge Gonzalo Curiel. "Four GOP senators joined a growing list of Republicans calling out Donald Trump for his recent remarks that a judge involved in one of his lawsuits could not be impartial because of his ethnicity. Trump, the presumptive GOP presidential nominee , said the federal judge overseeing a lawsuit relating to Trump University should recuse himself from the case because he is of Mexican descent. Judge Gonzalo Curiel , who was born in Indiana, is the son of Mexican immigrants. "Donald Trump's comments on the ethnic heritage and religion of judges are absolutely unacceptable," Sen. Susan Collins said in a statement Monday. " His statement that Judge Curiel could not rule fairly because of his Mexican heritage does not represent our American values." Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, the son of Cuban immigrants, also criticized the remarks in a television interview. "Quite frankly, I'm very disturbed by the way he's talking about this judge. He's an American." Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, another Republican of Cuban descent, said, "Of course, it is inappropriate to be attacking a federal judge's race or ethnicity." On Sunday, Trump also said it is "possible"that a Muslim judge would also be biased against him, during an interview on ABC's "This Week." Trump has called for a temporary ban on Muslims entering the United States.'' (ABC News, 6/6/16)

- **Rubio Noted "I Don't Defend What He Says, And All I Can Tell You Is I Ran For President And I Warned You This Is What Was Going To Happen."** "Joining the chorus of Republicans condemning Donald Trump over his rhetoric toward a federal judge's Mexican heritage, Marco Rubio offered a cutting remark: I warned you. The Florida senator on Monday called on Trump to stop questioning Indiana-born U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel's ability to preside fairly over Trump University fraud cases due to his Mexican heritage but appeared to take solace in having predicted that

something like this would happen. "I don't defend what he says, and all I can tell you is I ran for president and I warned you this is what was going to happen," Rubio told WFTV's Christopher Heath. "I consistently said if he became the nominee, we'd face these sorts of difficult choices we now have." Rubio is the latest Republican to decry Trump's remarks on the federal U.S. judge, whom Trump last week said had "an inherent conflict of interest," given his parents are from Mexico and the real estate mogul has proposed building a wall on the southern border that Mexico will pay for. "I think it's wrong," Rubio said of the billionaire's comments toward Curiel. "He needs to stop saying it. That man is an American.'" (*Politico*, 6/6/16)

- **"Rubio Said Trump's Rhetoric Toward Curiel Doesn't Reflect Well On The Republican Party Or "Us As A Nation," Adding That "Some Of The Things He Has Said And Done Aren't Going To Help" The Party Improve Its Relationships With Hispanics."** "Rubio said Trump's rhetoric toward Curiel doesn't reflect well on the Republican Party or "us as a nation," adding that "some of the things he has said and done aren't going to help" the party improve its relationships with Hispanics. "There shouldn't be any sort of ethnicity, religious or racial test for what kind of judges should hear what kind of cases," Rubio said. "If you take that argument and expand it, you can make that argument about anybody in any circumstances. It's wrong and I think he should stop." Though Rubio has endorsed Trump since suspending his presidential campaign in March and has even expressed willingness to speak on his behalf at the Republican National Convention, he distanced himself from the reality star and maintained that he didn't want Trump and Hillary Clinton to be America's choices for president. But voters chose differently. "And I respect that," he said. "I gave my word that I would support the nominee." Trump took his argument a step further Sunday, telling CBS' John Dickerson that a Muslim judge may not be impartial, either, given that he has called for a temporary ban on Muslims. Former presidential candidate John Kasich rebuked Trump's comments about Curiel earlier Monday, urging the presumptive Republican presidential nominee to apologize. Maine Sen. Susan Collins on Monday also responded to Trump's attack, chiding him for his "absolutely unacceptable" remarks. House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell have also condemned Trump's comments on Curiel." (*Politico*, 6/6/16)

In August 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump's Attacks Against Gold Star Parent Khizr Khan

In August 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump's Attacks Against Gold Star Parent Khizr Khan. "Sen. Marco Rubio has become the latest Republican to rebuff Donald Trump over comments about Capt. Humayun Khan's parents but, like others, he did not withdraw his support for the GOP presidential nominee. "I think his parents are heroes and they have a First Amendment right to speak out on their politics, as all Americans do. Their son died for the Constitution, and I honor that," the Florida Republican, a former Trump rival, said Monday in Clearwater, Florida. Khizr Khan, whose son Humayun was killed by a car bomb in 2004 while serving in Iraq, spoke at the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia last week, where he criticized Trump for his invective against Muslims and asked if he had ever read the U.S. Constitution. In what's become a widely ridiculed statement, Trump said over the weekend, "Mr. Khan who has never met me, has no right to stand in front of millions of people and claim I have never read the

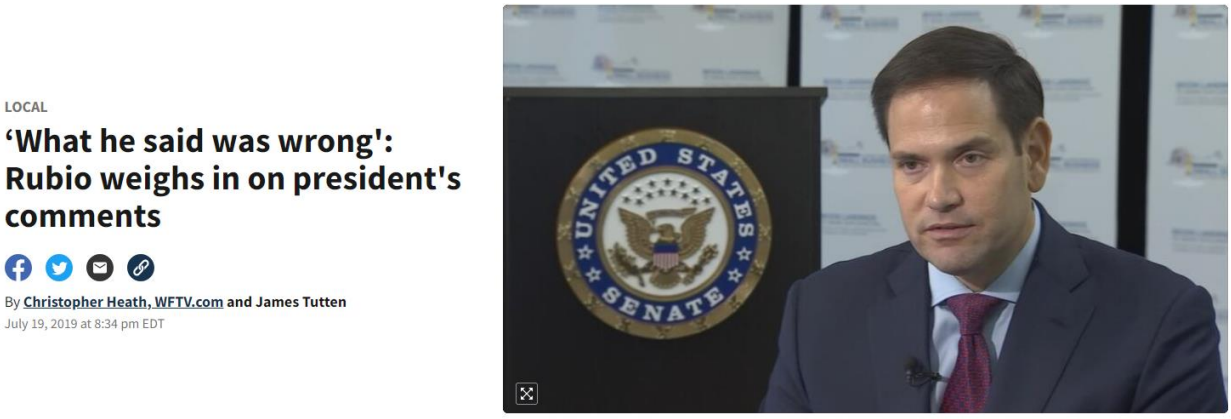
Constitution, (which is false) and say many other inaccurate things." The real estate mogul also questioned why Khan's wife, Ghazala Khan, remained silent on stage in Philadelphia, suggesting she wasn't allowed to speak because of her Muslim faith. But as with other Republicans, Rubio's repudiation of Trump's comments came without him withdrawing support for the Republican nominee's White House bid. Earlier in the day, Arizona Sen. John McCain issued a blistering critique of Trump as did the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Sen. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and House Speaker Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin also rejected Trump's comments but did not take back their support for his campaign for president. According to a transcript circulated by his office, Rubio said that on the broader question of Muslim immigration to the United States, the government should know exactly who is entering the country. "We have Americans who are Muslims who are patriotic and love this country, as evidenced by the Khan family. We also know that there are parts of this world, where there are terrorists that are trying to get into the United States, and it's not that we don't want to allow people in, it's that in many cases we can't because we don't have a way to vet them," the senator said. Rubio spoke of falsified passports from Syria that made it difficult to assess the backgrounds of people seeking to enter the country." (Roll Call, 8/1/16)

In 2017, Rubio Was One Of The Senators Critical Of Trump's Rhetoric In The Aftermath Of Charlottesville

In August 2017, Rubio Was One Of The Senators Critical Of Trump's Rhetoric In The Aftermath Of Charlottesville. "Republican lawmakers this weekend took President Donald Trump to task over what they deemed a weak response to white supremacist groups and violent clashes in Charlottesville, Virginia, the latest sign that Trump's grip on the party may be weakening. The outspoken group included past Trump antagonists such as Sens. Ben Sasse of Nebraska, Jeff Flake of Arizona and Marco Rubio of Florida, but it also included prominent conservative voices who aren't known as fierce critics of the administration, such as Sens. Orrin Hatch of Utah and Cory Gardner of Colorado. The Republicans joined civil rights leaders and Democrats who reacted angrily when Trump said Saturday he condemned "this egregious display of hatred, bigotry and violence on many sides — on many sides." His repetition of "many sides" struck critics as seeming to equate the white supremacist groups who organized the rally with counterprotesters, though the White House later sought to recast his statement to be more critical of hate groups. One woman was killed and more injured Saturday when a car plowed into a group of counterprotesters. Police later charged a man who had been photographed holding a symbol of one of the groups that organized the Charlottesville event, T he Associated Press reported. "This isn't a time for innuendo or to allow room to be read between the lines. This is a time to lay blame," Gardner, who is considered a rising star in the party, said on CNN on unday. "This president has done an incredible job of naming terrorism around the globe as evil," Gardner continued. "He has said and called it out time and time again. And this president needs to do exactly that today." "We should call evil by its name," Hatch wrote on Twitter Saturday." (*Politico*, 8/13/17)

In 2019, Rubio Criticized Trump's Rallying Cry Of "Send Her Back" Against Ilhan Omar And Contended "What He Said Was Wrong"

In 2019, Rubio Criticized Trump's Rallying Cry Of "Send Her Back" Against Ilhan Omar And Contended "What He Said Was Wrong" While Also Noting "I Didn't View That As A Reflection On America, I View It As A Reflection On The People Who Said It." "In an interview with Eyewitness News, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio decried the heated rhetoric of the last week, including the chants at the latest Trump rally of "send her back." "I didn't view that as a reflection on America, I view it as a reflection on the people who said it," Rubio said. While the senator said what the president said was wrong, he also said that some members of the House have been too quick to cry racism, including leveling charges against their own party in the last week. "Last week they were implying that Nancy Pelosi was a racist, because she called them out, then they hold this press conference where they say we shouldn't be divided on race and the color of our skin and by the way, if you disagree with us on anything, you are a white nationalist and you are a racist," Rubio said. On Sunday, President Trump tweeted, "So interesting to see 'Progressive' Democrat Congresswomen, who originally came from countries whose governments are a complete and total catastrophe, the worst, most corrupt and inept anywhere in the world (if they even have a functioning government at all), now loudly and viciously telling the people of the United States, the greatest and most powerful Nation on earth, how our government is to be run. Why don't they go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came. Then come back and show us how t is done. These places need your help badly, you can't leave fast enough. I'm sure that Nancy Pelosi would be very happy to quickly work out free travel arrangements!" This was followed by a rally midweek in which Trump supporters chanted "send her back," a reference to Congresswoman Ilhan Omar, who was born in Somalia, but became a U.S. citizen in 2000." (WFTV, 7/19/19)



LOCAL

'What he said was wrong': Rubio weighs in on president's comments

By Christopher Heath, WFTV.com and James Tutten

July 19, 2019 at 8:34 pm EDT

(WFTV, 7/19/19)

FOLLOWING THE 2016 PRIMARY, RUBIO STILL EXPRESSED CRITICISM OF TRUMP'S RHETORIC ON WOMEN

Rubio, In October 2016, After The Access Hollywood Comments: "Donald's Comments Were Vulgar, Egregious & Impossible To Justify. No One Should Ever Talk About Any Woman In Those Terms, Even In Private"

Rubio, In October 2016, After The Access Hollywood Comments: "Donald's Comments Were Vulgar, Egregious & Impossible To Justify. No One Should Ever Talk About Any Woman In Those Terms, Even In Private." (Twitter, 10/7/16)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
Donald's comments were vulgar, egregious & impossible to justify. No one should ever talk about any woman in those terms, even in private.
9:29 PM · Oct 7, 2016
4.3K
8.4K
15K
2

(Twitter, 10/7/16)

FOLLOWING THE 2020 ELECTION, RUBIO PROMOTED CRITICISMS OF JANUARY 6TH EFFORTS AND THE PROTESTING OF THE 2020 ELECTION RESULTS

In The Aftermath Of The 2020 Election, Despite Initially Supporting Trump's Challenges, Rubio Shifted His Rhetoric And "Mostly Stopped Talking About The Election"

In The Aftermath Of The 2020 Election, Despite Initially Supporting Trump's Challenges, Rubio Shifted His Rhetoric And "Mostly Stopped Talking About The Election." "Rubio did both. When Trump first started to allege irregularities in the election and his legal team filed lawsuits aimed at overturning the results, Rubio huffily defended the then-president's right to raise such questions. After President Biden was declared the winner of the election, Rubio continued to defend Trump's assertions that something untoward had happened. By the evening of Nov. 7, when the race was called, Trump's team and his allies were already 0 for 9 in their legal challenges. A few days later, Rubio's approach to the issue shifted. The issue was less that there were perhaps "irregularities" to be uncovered but, instead, that concern over potential irregularities from Republican voters demanded redress. This was a clever rhetorical shift eventually used by his colleague, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.), in opposing the counting of electoral

votes from several states. But it's also a hedge, allowing Rubio to stand alongside Trump while pointing in a slightly different direction. Rubio, like Cruz, is smart enough to know that by mid-November, there was no real evidence of fraud and that Trump's path to a second term in office had dried up. By Nov. 23, he'd referred to Biden as president-elect. But he's a politician and Trump had (and has) the enormous power of the Republican base. So Rubio tried to find a middle path. Over time, Rubio mostly stopped talking about the election. Trump was still tweeting out nonsensical claims about fraud, claims no more derived from reality than Greene's assertions about spacecraft starting wildfires in California. Rubio's response was not, as his tweet about Greene might suggest, to forcefully confront Trump's claims and expose them as false. His response instead was silence." (*Washington Post*, 2/3/21)

On January 6th, 2021, During The U.S. Capitol Protests, Rubio Attacked The Patriotism Of Protestors And Described The Event As "Anti-American Anarchy"

On January 6th, 2021, During The U.S. Capitol Protests, Rubio Attacked The Patriotism Of Protestors And Described The Event As "Anti-American Anarchy." (Twitter, 1/6/21)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio · Follow
There is nothing patriotic about what is occurring on Capitol Hill. This is 3rd world style anti-American anarchy.
3:01 PM · Jan 6, 2021
30.1K
Reply
Share
Read 27.3K replies

(Twitter, 1/6/21)

VIDEO: On January 6, 2021, Rubio Condemns The U.S. Capitol Protests As "One Of The Saddest Days In Our Modern History, Probably In Our History" And Deems It "Inexcusable"

VIDEO: On January 6, 2021, Rubio Condemns The U.S. Capitol Protests As "One Of The Saddest Days In Our Modern History, Probably In Our History" And Deems It "Inexcusable." "MARCO RUBIO (00:14): I think it's one of the saddest days in our modern history, probably in our history. I think they're high fiving in Beijing and the Chinese look at this and are very happy about it. It kind of bolsters their claim that we're falling apart and they're the country of the future. I think it's inexcusable completely a hundred percent excusable. I don't care what the motivations and obviously people are going to get arrested, we're going to learn more about who was there and what this was all about. And I think it'll be interesting to see sort of the mix of people that were there and so forth. I think it's been tragic, and I want to say something, I want to thank the Capitol police officers. We know a lot of these people personally, we walk by

them every single day who had to go out there and do this, and we're really undermanned for and overwhelmed by this at one point in time. (01:01) And so none of it is an excuse. Now, I do think that one of the challenges we have is we have a serious crisis of confidence in this country. There is now literally no individual or institution in this country that can speak definitively about anything. And that's not an excuse for any of this, but it explains some of the things that create an environment that lead to this all across the board. And the media is shocked that they have zero credibility. They're viewed largely as biased. Then you have the censoring of news stories before an election by social media companies. And then you have these questions that in normal times people would look at and be able to work through. But in that environment of lack of confidence really sparks up. And I think those things need to be answered because elections, democracy doesn't just depend on having elections and depends on people's confidence in those elections and their willingness to abide by those results. They're interrelated. I don't know why the Senate can't do Watergate style, Titanic style hearings. We could take testimony, subpoena records. It wouldn't change the outcome of this race, but it would give people the clarity, the answer. And by the way, the changes that we need to make. When I was in Florida in the legislature, I served on a task force after 2000 that made a bunch of changes to the mechanics of our elections, and I think we could do that for the country. TUCKER CARLSON (02:13): I wondered all day what Republicans in the Senate made of this. So people came to your place of work, and I'm not talking you personally. I am really despised by an awful lot of people. And every once in a while I think to myself, they have good reason to despise me. Maybe I can communicate differently. I mean, it should evoke some soul searching in the person who's despised a little bit. And I wonder if Republican senators are thinking to themselves tonight, I hate the vandalism, I hate the violence. I hate all this crap. On the other hand, a lot of my voters really hate me. Maybe I should change the way I behave. Do you think anyone's thinking that? MARCO RUBIO (02:47): Well, I certainly think there's two things that have to happen. First, we have to firmly say that this stuff's not acceptable. It just can't happen. I mean, I TUCKER CARLSON (02:54): Couldn't agree more. MARCO RUBIO (02:55): We look like the third world. I mean honestly, we look like the third. I mean, this is stuff that you see in another country. We've got 10 pot dictators out there lecturing us and mocking us in their Twitter feeds and online. So that stuff can't happen. The second thing I would make is at some point everyone's got to step back here and realize that this has been brewing and building for a while and it's all across the board. And there are real factors out there that are contributing not just to an erosion of confidence and trust in America, but some of the, you made a point and I caught the tail end of it, and it's absolutely right. There is no such thing as a country in which half of us are very happy and the other half is very unhappy. It can't work. None of us is going anywhere. So we're going to have to figure out a way to coexist. That's always been the challenge in America. A country that covers this vast continent such, so diverse. And that's what our system is about and that's what law and order is about, is allowing us to have those disputes without violence, but through passionate debate. TUCKER CARLSON (03:49): We are in it together whether we want to be or not, a lot of us don't want to be, but it's kind of not up to us. So I agree with that. Senator, great to see you. MARCO RUBIO (03:56): Thank you." (YouTube, 1/6/21)



(YouTube, 1/6/21)

- **NOTE:** *An archived press release from Rubio condemning the January 6th protests can be found here: https://web.archive.org/.*

- **VIDEO: In January 2021, Rubio Reiterates January 6th Was One Of The "Saddest Days" In American History And A "National Embarrassment" That Has Made America Seem Like A "Third-World" Country While Condemning The Conspiracy Theories That Led To The Event; Rubio Also Argued That January 6th Meant That The Election Results Should Be Certified.** (Twitter, 1/6/21)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 6, 2021
Senator Rubio's statement on the certification of the Electoral College
1:40 / 3:07
304
191
390

(Twitter, 1/6/21)

VIDEO: In January 2021, Rubio Criticizes Stop The Steal Efforts For Convincing People That The Election Could Be Overturned And Condemns January 6th Protestors As A "National Embarrassment"

VIDEO: In January 2021, Rubio Criticizes Stop The Steal Efforts For Convincing People That The Election Could Be Overturned And Condemns January 6th Protestors As A "National Embarrassment" Noting "People Were Led To Believe That These Challenges Would Prevail, And When It Didn't Happen, A Small Group Of People But Nonetheless A Significant Group Of People Created A Tremendous Amount Of Damage. Some Are Adherents Of Conspiracy Theories. Others Got Caught Up In The Moment And The Result Was A National Embarrassment. The Chinese Are Laughing At Us Tonight. Laughing." (Fox News, 1/7/21)



(Fox News, 1/7/21)

Rubio: "Some Of Them Unfortunately Were Adherence To A Conspiracy Theory And Others Got Caught Up In The Moment. The Result Was A National Embarrassment"

Rubio: "Some Of Them Unfortunately Were Adherence To A Conspiracy Theory And Others Got Caught Up In The Moment. The Result Was A National Embarrassment." "Sen. Marco Rubio is claiming some of the Trump supporters who barged into the Capitol building "got caught up in the moment." Rubio, whose staff told CBS4 News wasn't available for an interview, spoke about the assault on the Capitol on Fox News Thursday night. He condemned the violence, but also spoke about other President Trump supporters. "Ninety-nine percent of the people that went yesterday to Washington, DC, to protest and have their voices heard did not barge into the Capitol. But 1% of thousands of people is a lot of people," the senator said. "Some of them unfortunately were adherence to a conspiracy theory and others got caught up in the moment. The result was a national embarrassment." Wednesday night, the senator did not object to election results from certain states. "The senators who filed it said we know we are not going to win but we are making this point. People were led to believe that these challenges would prevail," Rubio said. The riot was fueled by conspiracy theories and false claims about the election. Even though Rubio didn't formally object, he believes there are still problems. "The practice of states going to court to friendly judges, changing the laws so they can get an advantage for Democrats and circumventing the legislature. All that needs to be addressed," he said. In another interview, Rubio compared the siege to that of unstable countries. "This is stuff you see in another country. We got tin pot dictators out there lecturing us and mocking us in their Twitter feeds and online. So that stuff can't happen," said Rubio. In a video message on Twitter, Rubio also called Wednesday's siege "one of the saddest days in our history," and a "national embarrassment.'" (CBS News, 1/7/21)

VIDEO: Later In January 2021, Rubio Continued To Condemn The January 6th Protests As "Unpatriotic," "Disgusting" And Ran "County To Everything We Stand For"

VIDEO: Later In January 2021, Rubio Continued To Condemn The January 6th Protests As "Unpatriotic," "Disgusting" And Ran "County To Everything We Stand For." (Twitter, 1/20/21)



(Twitter, 1/20/21)

Rubio Has Continued To Condemn January 6th Protestors And Support Their Prosecution; He Has Not Offered His Support For Trump's Call To Pardon Them

Rubio Has Continued To Condemn January 6th Protestors And Support Their Prosecution; He Has Not Offered His Support For Trump's Call To Pardon Them. "Rubio has been sharply critical of the Democratic-led investigation into the Capitol Hill insurrection, and when asked if he believes Trump was responsible for the Capitol attack, he instead pinned the blame on those who broke into the building. "I think the people responsible for January 6 are ultimately the people that entered this building and broke the law," Rubio said in an interview. Rubio wouldn't say whether he agreed with Trump's call to pardon the rioters. "We have too many real problems for me to focus on hypothetical ones," he said. And he also contended that the Capitol attack would not be a decisive issue in his race. "What happened January 6 was horrible and it was a terrible day, it should never happen again. And people are being prosecuted for it," Rubio said. "But what does that have to do with the fact that people are paying exorbitant prices for everything, they can't find things, can't find workers?" The Florida Republican also turned the screws on his opponent, even as he conceded there is "no doubt" she would raise more

money than him in the highly expensive state. “She’s a Pelosi puppet, votes with Pelosi 100% of the time, that’s why she wants her in the Senate,” Rubio said of Demings, referring to Speaker Nancy Pelosi. “She’s done nothing in her time in Congress.” Approached in the Capitol, Demings declined to be interviewed on the race and later declined to be interviewed on the phone.” (CNN, 2/17/22)

RUBIO VOTED TO CERTIFY THE 2020 ELECTION RESULTS

In January 2021, Rubio Voted To Certify The 2020 Election Results For Arizona And Pennsylvania

In January 2021, Rubio Voted To Certify The 2020 Election Results For Arizona And Pennsylvania. “The Senate overwhelmingly turned aside challenges to President-elect Joe Biden’s victory in the presidential election, guaranteeing the result will stand. The objection to the results in Arizona -- spearheaded by Rep. Paul Gosar and Sen. Ted Cruz -- was rejected 93-6 on Wednesday night. Among those voting against the challenge were Republican Florida Sens. Marco Rubio and Rick Scott. The Republicans -- both allies of outgoing President Donald Trump, split, however, on a later vote over a legal challenge to Pennsylvania’s election. After lawmakers reconvened following a siege on the US Capitol that stalled the proceedings, Scott was among the seven senators who voted to reject Pennsylvania’s electors. Rubio, however, voted not to sustain any objections to states’ electors. The legal challenge to Pennsylvania’s election, ultimately rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court, hinged in part on a Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling in favor of expanding allowable vote-by-mail ballots. Scott contends the move was “in defiance of (Pennsylvania) state law.” “We simply cannot tolerate partisan political attempts to change the rules and tip the scales in our elections,” Scott wrote in a statement Wednesday. Rubio and Scott were among a myriad of Florida Republicans who rushed to condemn Wednesday’s violence in the halls of Congress. During his floor remarks, Rubio said the display made a mockery of U.S. politics and delighted of foreign adversaries. “China’s laughing. They’re loving this tonight. In Beijing, they’re high-fiving because they point to this and say, ‘This is proof that the future belongs to China. America’s in decline.’ Vladimir Putin? There’s nothing that Vladimir Putin could come up with better than what happened here,” Rubio said. “Makes us look like we’re in total chaos and collapse.’” (News 4 Jax, 1/6/21)

Rubio Voted Nay, On The Objection To The Counting Of The Electoral Vote From The State Of Arizona. (Objection To AZ Election Results, Objection Not Sustained (6-93), U.S. Senate, 1/6/21, Rubio Voted Nay)

Rubio Voted Nay, On The Objection To The Presidential Electoral Vote Certificate From The Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania. (Objection To PA Election Results, Objection Not Sustained (7-92), U.S. Senate, 1/6/21, Rubio Voted Nay)

Rubio Has Described Voting Against Certification Of The 2020 Election Results “A Terrible Idea”

Rubio Has Described Voting Against Certification Of The 2020 Election Results “A Terrible Idea.” “Many Republicans in Florida haven’t forgotten “the debate stage and the tête-à-tête between the two of them,” said Tom Gaitens, who represents the Tampa area on the state

party's central committee. Some Trump supporters have occasionally suggested finding a MAGA-aligned candidate to get behind, Gaitens said, but Rubio has managed to beat back any mass uprising. "Once the Trump train was on the tracks, I think Marco got on board," Gaitens said. The rumors, though, hit a crescendo after January 6, when Rubio was not among the eight Republican senators who voted against certifying the election results. Rubio called it "a terrible idea." His Florida counterpart, US Sen. Rick Scott, voted against certification of Pennsylvania's electors. When Ivanka Trump and husband Jared Kushner signed a lease on a luxury condo in Miami, speculation swirled that the former President's daughter could mount a challenge to Rubio. But Ivanka Trump shut down those rumors with a tweet. The whispering ended altogether when Trump announced last April his "complete and total endorsement" of Rubio. That same day, Trump held a luncheon fundraiser for Rubio at Mar-A-Lago." (CNN, 2/17/22)

VIDEO: In January 2021, On The Senate Floor, Rubio Condemns Senators Who Still Are Seeking To Block Certification Of The 2020 Election Results As A "Terrible Idea"

VIDEO: In January 2021, On The Senate Floor, Rubio Condemns Senators Who Still Are Seeking To Block Certification Of The 2020 Election Results As A "Terrible Idea." (Twitter, 1/6/21)



(Twitter, 1/6/21)

RUBIO PROMOTED CRITICISM OF TRUMP'S CLAIMS ON VICE PRESIDENTIAL POWER CONCERNING THE 2020 ELECTION CERTIFICATION

In 2022, Rubio "Rejected A Claim By Former President Donald Trump That Former Vice President Mike Pence Had The Power To Overturn The Results Of The 2020 Presidential Election"

In 2022, Rubio "Rejected A Claim By Former President Donald Trump That Former Vice President Mike Pence Had The Power To Overturn The Results Of The 2020 Presidential Election." "Senator Marco Rubio, a Florida Republican, rejected a claim by former President Donald Trump that former Vice President Mike Pence had the power to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election. Pence made the rebuke during a speech to a Federalist Society event on Friday. In the aftermath of Trump's loss, the former president and other Republicans pushed claims—without evidence—that widespread fraud was the only reason why he lost. Some—including those who participated in the violent January 6 riot—also believed that Pence should have overturned the election. But during his speech, Pence said he "had no right" to do so. "The presidency belongs to the American people and the American people alone," he said. "And frankly, there is no idea more un-American than the notion that any one person could choose the American president. Under the Constitution, I had no right to change the outcome of our election." His remarks later drew the ire of Trump, while also receiving praise from some Republicans." (*Newsweek*, 2/6/22)

"Rubio, During A Sunday Morning Appearance On CBS News' Face The Nation, Backed Pence In The Ongoing Feud. He Noted That If The Situation Was Reversed, He Would Not Want A Democratic Vice President To Overturn Election Results"

"Rubio, During A Sunday Morning Appearance On CBS News' Face The Nation, Backed Pence In The Ongoing Feud. He Noted That If The Situation Was Reversed, He Would Not Want A Democratic Vice President To Overturn Election Results." "Rubio, during a Sunday morning appearance on CBS News' Face the Nation, backed Pence in the ongoing feud. He noted that if the situation was reversed, he would not want a Democratic vice president to overturn election results. "Well, if President Trump runs for reelection, I believe he would defeat Joe Biden. I don't want Kamala Harris to have the power as vice president to overturn that election. That's the same thing that I concluded back in January of 2021," he said. The senator, who ultimately voted to certify Biden's win, added that he considered this line of thinking when voting on whether or not to certify the election results in key swing states. "You know, when that issue was raised, I looked at it, had analyzed it and came to the same conclusion that vice presidents can't simply decide not to certify an election.'" (*Newsweek*, 2/6/22)

DURING TRUMP'S PRESIDENCY, RUBIO EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR AND WAS INVOLVED IN THE OVERSIGHT OF THE TRUMP-RUSSIA INVESTIGATIONS

"After The 2016 Election, Rubio Ultimately Became Chairman Of The Senate Intelligence Committee, And Oversaw The Panel When It Investigated The Connections Between The Trump Campaign And Its Russian Benefactors. The Rubio-Led Investigation Ultimately Uncovered, Among Other Things, A "Direct Tie Between Senior Trump Campaign Officials And The Russian Intelligence Services"

"After The 2016 Election, Rubio Ultimately Became Chairman Of The Senate Intelligence Committee, And Oversaw The Panel When It Investigated The Connections Between The Trump Campaign And Its Russian Benefactors. The Rubio-Led Investigation Ultimately Uncovered, Among Other Things, A "Direct Tie Between Senior Trump Campaign Officials And The Russian Intelligence Services.'" "After the 2016 election, Rubio ultimately became chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and oversaw the panel when it investigated the connections between the Trump campaign and its Russian benefactors. The Rubio-led investigation ultimately uncovered, among other things, a "direct tie between senior Trump Campaign officials and the Russian intelligence services." After the 2020 election, when Trump was pressing GOP lawmakers to reject certification of Joe Biden's presidential election victory, Rubio was among the Republicans who ignored Trump's pleas. The moment Trump were to add Rubio to his ticket, all of this becomes front-page news again. Would the former president take the risk anyway? I'm skeptical, but he's certainly made plenty of irrational decisions before." (MSNBC, 3/21/24)

In 2017, Rubio Backed Robert Mueller's Investigation And Contended "That He Believes The Prosecutor Will Carry Out His Investigation Into Whether The Trump Campaign Colluded With Russia During The 2016 Presidential Campaign "In A Fair And Balanced Way'"

In 2017, Rubio Backed Robert Mueller's Investigation And Contended "That He Believes The Prosecutor Will Carry Out His Investigation Into Whether The Trump Campaign Colluded With Russia During The 2016 Presidential Campaign "In A Fair And Balanced Way.'" "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) backed special counsel Robert Mueller in an interview published Friday, saying that he believes the prosecutor will carry out his investigation into whether the Trump campaign colluded with Russia during the 2016 presidential campaign "in a fair and balanced way." "From his reputation and everything I know about him, I remain convinced that when this is all said and done, Mueller is going to only pursue things that are true and he will do it in a fair and balanced way," Rubio said of Mueller in a News-Press interview. The senator's comments come one day after President Trump expressed confidence that Mueller would carry out the federal probe without bias despite recent attacks on Mueller's integrity from Republican lawmakers. "I think the best thing that can happen for the president, for the country and for everyone is that he be allowed to complete his investigation as thoroughly and as completely as possible and that we allow the facts from the investigation to lead where they

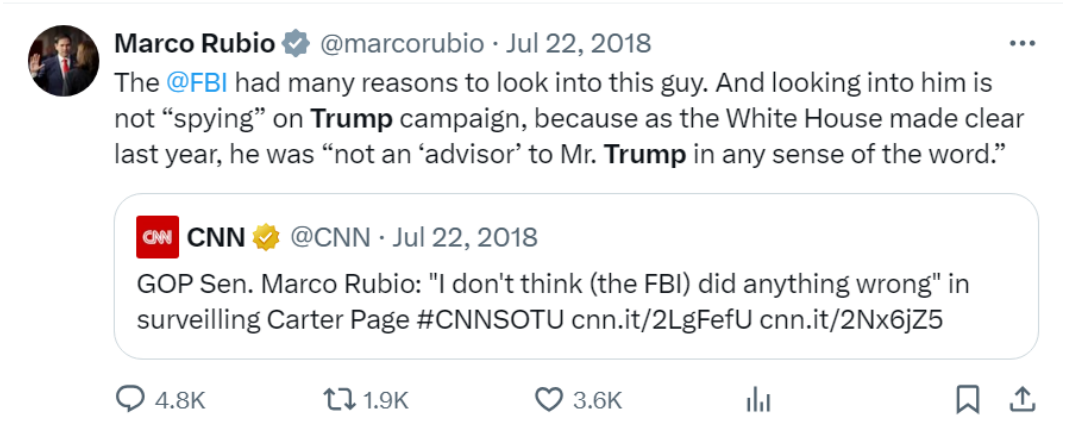
may," Rubio continued. Rubio, who sits on the Senate Intelligence Committee that is leading its own probe into possible ties to Russia within Trump's campaign team, has previously said that Trump firing Mueller would be a "mistake" and that the president should allow the special counsel to conclude his investigation despite the president's belief that the search for collusion is a "witch hunt." Trump allies ramped up demands for the probes to be shut down after Congress received a report that a top FBI counterintelligence agent who was fired from Mueller's team had sent anti-Trump texts between August 2015 and December 2016. The House Intelligence Committee is now seeking answers into possible bias on Mueller's team, while Republicans on the conservative House Freedom Caucus have publicly demanded that Mueller recuse himself from the investigation over his friendship with former FBI Director James Comey, who Trump fired. The White House has in the past raised concerns over the integrity of the probe but has not said Mueller should resign or suggested that the president would fire him." (The Hill, 12/29/17)

In 2018, Rubio Defended The FBI's Investigation Regarding Possible Ties Between Trump Campaign Officials And Russia

In 2018, Rubio Defended The FBI's Investigation Regarding Possible Ties Between Trump Campaign Officials And Russia. "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) defended the FBI in comments on ABC on Sunday, saying he believes law enforcement was right to investigate "certain individuals" with suspicious histories connected to Russia. Rubio argued the FBI was not investigating President Trump's campaign, but was looking into these individuals, something he said was appropriate. "As far as what I have seen to date, it appears that there was an investigation not of the campaign but of certain individuals who have a history that we should be suspicious of that predate the presidential campaign of 2015, 2016." Rubio said on ABC's "This Week." "When individuals like that are in the orbit of a major political campaign in America, the FBI, who is in charge of counterintelligence investigations, should look at people like that," Rubio added. "But they're not investigating the campaign, they're investigating those people." Rubio made the remarks in response to Trump's argument that the FBI improperly spied on his presidential campaign through the use of the informant. "The Democrats are now alluding to the the concept that having an Informant placed in an opposing party's campaign is different than having a Spy, as illegal as that may be," he tweeted on Friday. "But what about an 'Informant' who is paid a fortune and who 'sets up' way earlier than the Russian Hoax?" It's not clear whether the FBI paid the informant. Rubio did not give a direct answer to questions on ABC about whether Trump's claims were wrong. "I have no evidence that those people were part of an investigation on the campaign. If that exists, I would want to know about it, we should all know about and that — that would be wrong and we should — we should do something about it," he said. "But up to now, what I have seen is evidence that they were investigating individuals with a history of links to Russia that were concerning." Rubio during a separate interview on CBS's "Face the Nation" also said he has seen no evidence of a spy in Trump's campaign. "I haven't seen any yet but maybe there is, and if it's there, we'll find it and we want to know about it.'" (The Hill, 5/27/18)

In 2018, Rubio Defended The FBI Surveilling And Investigating Trump Foreign Policy Advisor Carter Page

In 2018, Rubio Defended The FBI Surveilling And Investigating Trump Foreign Policy Advisor Carter Page Noting "The @FBI Had Many Reasons To Look Into This Guy. And Looking Into Him Is Not "Spying" On Trump Campaign, Because As The White House Made Clear Last Year, He Was "Not An 'Advisor' To Mr. Trump In Any Sense Of The Word.'" (Twitter, 6/22/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 22, 2018
The @FBI had many reasons to look into this guy. And looking into him is not "spying" on Trump campaign, because as the White House made clear last year, he was "not an 'advisor' to Mr. Trump in any sense of the word."
CNN @CNN · Jul 22, 2018
GOP Sen. Marco Rubio: "I don't think (the FBI) did anything wrong" in surveilling Carter Page #CNNSOTU cnn.it/2LgFefU cnn.it/2Nx6jZ5
4.8K
1.9K
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(Twitter, 6/22/18)

Rubio, In 2019: "I've Been Very Clear From The Very Beginning The Best Thing For The Country And For The President Was For The Mueller Probe To Move Forward Unimpeded"

Rubio, In 2019: "I've Been Very Clear From The Very Beginning The Best Thing For The Country And For The President Was For The Mueller Probe To Move Forward Unimpeded." (Twitter, 5/24/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Mar 24, 2019
I've been very clear from the very beginning the best thing for the country and for the President was for the Mueller probe to move forward unimpeded.
My interview w/ @chucktodd on @MeetThePress on the conclusion of the investigation -->
WASHINGTON, DC
MIAMI
Play
2:18 / 8:36
MEET THE PRESS
18
27
62

(Twitter, 5/24/19)

FOLLOWING TRUMP'S PRESIDENCY, RUBIO APPEARS TO HAVE CRITICIZED TRUMP'S HANDLING OF CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS

VIDEO: In 2022, Rubio Couched His Defense Of Trump's Handling Of Classified Documents Noting "The Documents That Were At Mar-A-Lago By All Accounts Were Turned Over. Look If The Process Wasn't Followed Then There Needs To Be Something That Happens About That"

VIDEO: In 2022, Rubio Couched His Defense Of Trump's Handling Of Classified Documents Noting "The Documents That Were At Mar-A-Lago By All Accounts Were Turned Over. Look If The Process Wasn't Followed Then There Needs To Be Something That Happens About That." (Fox News, 2/14/22)



(Fox News, 2/14/22)

In 2023, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump Storing Documents At Mar-A-Lago Noting They "Should Not Have Been There" But Was More Critical Of An Indictment Having Been Brought Against Trump In The First Place

In 2023, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump Storing Documents At Mar A Lago Noting They "Should Not Have Been There" But Was More Critical Of An Indictment Having Been Brought Against Trump In The First Place. "Former President Donald Trump is scheduled to appear in a Miami courtroom on Tuesday where he will address an indictment consisting of 37 felony charges related to his handling of classified documents after he left the White House. Trump vehemently denies any wrongdoing in connection with the case. In an interview with "CBS Mornings," Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and author of the new book "Decades of Decadence: How Our Spoiled Elites Blew America's Inheritance of Liberty, Security, and Prosperity," expressed concern about the impact of the indictment on the country — and said it is "political in nature." "When you bring an indictment like this, it's not done in isolation. It's not done in a vacuum. You gotta take a lot of things into account. There's no allegation that there was harm done to the, to the national security. There's no allegation that he sold it to a foreign power or that it was trafficked to somebody else or that anybody got access to it," said Rubio. "You have to weigh the harm of that, or lack thereof, on the harm that this indictment does to the country. This is deeply divisive," he said. He said prosecuting the likely GOP presidential nominee, who will run against an incumbent president, is alone "political in nature," and said there will be "certain harm." This will put institutions into "tremendous crisis," he said. "The judge will be attacked. The process will be attacked. The Department of Justice will be attacked. The prosecutor will be attacked," said Rubio. While the senator said the classified documents found at Mar-a-Lago "should not have been there," he said the indictment "is a separate thing." "You're bringing an indictment that basically alleges no real damage to national security — not that it excuses it — versus what we're going to see now. We're going to subject this country to a divisive spectacle" at a time when we're dealing with major issues. When asked about Trump's leadership qualities, Rubio

expressed his belief that Trump could "do a better job" than President Biden as the next leader of the country. He also said he would personally choose Trump over Biden "in a heartbeat." However, he emphasized that the ultimate decision on leadership lies with the voters. "People can debate about who they think it shouldn't be. Voters are going to make that decision. Okay, bottom line is that our republic will produce a president. Your policies are what we need to hold them to," Rubio said." (CBS News, 6/12/23)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S BORDER SECURITY POLICIES

In 2019, Rubio Criticized Trump's Efforts To Declare A National Emergency To Build His Proposed Southern Border Wall Noting "We Have A Crisis At Our Southern Border, But No Crisis Justifies Violating The Constitution"

In 2019, Rubio Criticized Trump's Efforts To Declare A National Emergency To Build His Proposed Southern Border Wall Noting "We Have A Crisis At Our Southern Border, But No Crisis Justifies Violating The Constitution." "President Donald Trump announced Friday that he is declaring a national emergency, circumventing the legislative branch to secure border wall funding. "We're going to confront the national security crisis on our southern border, and we're going to do it one way or the other, we have to do it," Trump said in a speech from the White House Rose Garden. "I'm going to be signing a national emergency, and it's been signed many times before. It's been signed by other presidents. From 1977 or so, it gave the presidents the power. There's rarely been a problem. They signed it, nobody cares, I guess they weren't very exciting." Trump's declaration comes as he failed to secure congressional support for more than $5 billion he wanted for border security in a broader spending bill that funds a variety of federal agencies. His unilateral move to declare a national emergency is based on the 1976 National Emergencies Act. It's been used 60 times since the law was passed, including after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, when President George W. Bush sought additional powers to organize the military. But Trump's critics assailed the move, accusing the president of manufacturing a crisis and vowing a fight in the courts. "President Trump's personal political predicament does not qualify as a national emergency," said Tampa Democratic Rep Kathy Castor. "He manufactured a national emergency to unlawfully divert funds to his pet project instead of focusing on what matters to American families like lowering health care costs, creating jobs through infrastructure and tackling the climate crisis." House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) said Friday in a joint statement that Trump's actions "clearly violate the Congress's exclusive power of the purse, which our Founders enshrined in the Constitution. The Congress will defend our constitutional authorities in the Congress, in the Courts, and in the public, using every remedy available." Trump fueled his critics by suggesting during his press conference that he didn't "need" to issue the declaration, as he also emphasized that the wall is necessary to block drugs, criminals and gang members from entering the United States. "I could do the wall over a longer period of time, I didn't need to do this, but I'd rather do it much faster," Trump said. Congress does have the power to end a national emergency declaration from a president, but it would likely mean mustering a veto-proof majority in both chambers, a steep climb in the Republican-controlled

Senate. Many Republicans are supportive of Trump's plans, including Florida U.S. Senator Rick Scott, who said he applauded the decision to put "country first" and use his authority to secure the border. "This is a reasoned, measured approach to fulfill his duty as Commander in Chief and keep our country safe, and I appreciate that he kept his word to not repurpose funds designated for disaster relief funding for Florida or Puerto Rico, which I've discussed with him at length. I look forwarding to working with him as Florida continues to rebuild following multiple devastating hurricanes," Scott said. However, Florida's senior U.S. Senator, Marco Rubio, took a dissenting view of Trump's action. He warned that the move could lead future presidents to pursue their own agendas by using emergency declarations. "We have a crisis at our southern border, but no crisis justifies violating the Constitution," Rubio said in a statement. Another president "may use this exact same tactic to impose the Green New Deal," he said, referring to Democrats' proposal to combat climate change." (Florida Phoenix, 2/15/19)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S POSTURE TOWARDS CHINA

In 2018, Rubio Issued A Series Of Social Media Posts Contending The Trump Administration Was "Losing" In Its Negotiations With China

In May 2018, Rubio Issued A Series Of Social Media Posts Contending The Trump Administration Was "Losing" In Its Negotiations With China. "The Florida senator has long tried to distinguish himself from other Republicans on the basis of his foreign policy and national security expertise. A member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Rubio has embraced traditionally hawkish GOP views on China, Russia and the position of the United States on the world stage. He also witnessed firsthand in the 2016 presidential campaign the power of a protectionist trade message, on which Trump ran successfully. Rubio tweeted Tuesday that China was "out-negotiating the administration & winning the trade talks right now." He added: "This is #NotWinning." On Monday, Rubio wrote that China "is winning the negotiations," using the hashtag "#Losing." He's warned that releasing restrictions on the Chinese firm, which is partly owned by the government, could put U.S. national security and intellectual property at risk. Rubio's allies say the tweets enable him to potentially grab Trump's attention. "That's how you get things done with this administration. When Marco tweets, Fox picks it up, and that's how the president sees it," said one informal adviser to Rubio, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to be more candid. But a Republican consultant close to the White House called the tweets "shortsighted." "What does Rubio get out of it? It will definitely get Trump's attention, and Trump will choose to smack him down. What's Rubio's endgame?" asked the consultant, who also spoke on the condition of anonymity to openly share an assessment. The White House did not respond to a request for comment on Rubio. Rebutting the criticism that he was being too soft on China, Trump said Tuesday, "For those who say maybe Trump is getting a little bit easy — ZTE, we closed it." Rubio is far from the only lawmaker who has been issuing rebukes or caution on China and ZTE. But the Florida senator has been one of the sharpest critics. "In the case of ZTE, I believe it's not so much a trade or economic issue as it is a national security issue," said Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), vice chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, offering a more measured take than Rubio has this week, but making the same general argument

that the Floridian offered earlier this month. "And I'm sure we'll continue to have conversations about that." Where Rubio goes from here is not completely clear. He said Tuesday he plans to "begin working on veto-proof congressional action." In the past, Rubio has moved back from a contentious position after first leaning in." (*The Washington Post*, 5/23/18)

In 2018, Rubio Criticized Trump For Reportedly Considering Backing Away From Limits On Chinese Investments

In 2018, Rubio Criticized Trump For Reportedly Considering Backing Away From Limits On Chinese Investments, Noting "If In Fact President Trump Is Now Backtracking On Tough Limits On Chinese Investment, It Is A VERY BIG MISTAKE. #China Is Strategically Buying Up U.S. Companies Specializing In Cutting Edge Technology. What They Don't Steal From Us They Buy Away From Us." (Twitter, 6/27/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jun 27, 2018
If in fact President Trump is now backtracking on tough limits on Chinese investment, it is a VERY BIG MISTAKE. #China is strategically buying up U.S. companies specializing in cutting edge technology. What they don't steal from us they buy away from us
Trump Eases Demand for New Tools to Limit Chinese Investment
From wsj.com
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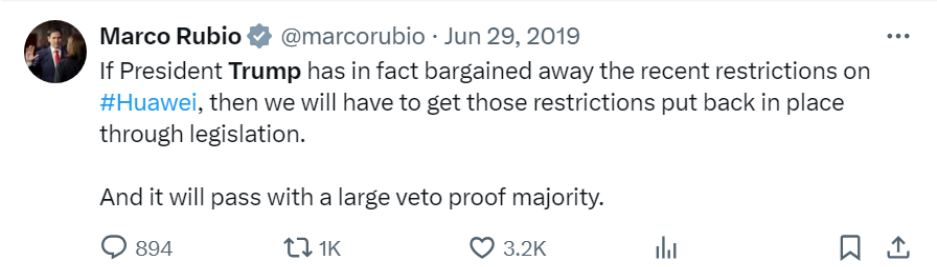
(Twitter, 6/27/18)

In 2019, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump's Apparent Easing Of Restrictions On Huawei And Noted That To Follow Through With Such A Policy Would Be A "Catastrophic Mistake"

In 2019, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump's Apparent Easing Of Restrictions On Huawei And Noted That To Follow Through With Such A Policy Would Be A "Catastrophic Mistake." (Twitter, 6/29/19)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jun 29, 2019
If President Trump has agreed to reverse recent sanctions against #Huawei he has made a catastrophic mistake.
It will destroy the credibility of his administrations warnings about the threat posed by the company,no one will ever again take them seriously.
U.S. and China agree to restart trade negotiations following meeting between Tr...
From washingtonpost.com
2K
1.3K
3K

(Twitter, 6/29/19)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jun 29, 2019
If President Trump has in fact bargained away the recent restrictions on #Huawei, then we will have to get those restrictions put back in place through legislation.
And it will pass with a large veto proof majority.
894
1K
3.2K

(Twitter, 6/29/19)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S POSTURE TOWARDS NATO

In 2016, Rubio Disagreed "With Donald Trump's Suggestion That The United States Shouldn't Automatically Come To The Defense Of Fellow NATO Members If They Are Attacked"

In July 2016, Rubio Disagreed "With Donald Trump's Suggestion That The United States Shouldn't Automatically Come To The Defense Of Fellow NATO Members If They Are Attacked." "Sen. Marco Rubio said Thursday that he disagrees with Donald Trump's suggestion that the United States shouldn't automatically come to the defense of fellow NATO members if they are attacked. "My hope is that if Donald is elected president, we can convince him to change his mind on that," Rubio said. "And, if he doesn't, we'll obviously have to oppose that

because if Article 5 is in doubt, then the whole NATO alliance could collapse." Article 5 of the NATO Treaty lays out that an attack on one member amounts to an attack on all members, and that fellow NATO states must help the one that was struck. Trump's comments about NATO, delivered in a lengthy interview with The New York Times, were just his latest bombshell on the foreign policy front. The Republican presidential nominee has offered a radically different view of U.S. engagement with the world than many in his own party hold — one that is defined primarily in economic terms and which does not hold treaties sacrosanct. In the Times interview, which came ahead of his speech Thursday night at the Republican National Convention, Trump also said he would not chide authoritarian leaders for cracking down on civil liberties or purging their political rivals; that he'd pull the U.S. out of the North American Free Trade Agreement if Canada and Mexico didn't agree to better terms; and that he may pull back U.S. troops deployed around the world, even from highly sensitive areas such as the Korean peninsula. But it was the real estate mogul's comments on NATO that produced the most international hand-wringing." (*Politico*, 7/21/16)

In 2019, Rubio Joined A Bipartisan Group Of Senators Sponsoring Legislation "That Would Prevent The President From Withdrawing From The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Without Senate Approval"

In 2019, Rubio Joined A Bipartisan Group Of Senators Sponsoring Legislation "That Would Prevent The President From Withdrawing From The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Without Senate Approval." "A bipartisan group of senators on Thursday reintroduced a bill that would prevent the president from withdrawing from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) without Senate approval. The bill, introduced by four Democrats and four Republicans, would require two-thirds approval from the Senate for a president to suspend, terminate or withdraw the United States from NATO. "President Trump's repeated threats to withdraw from NATO are dangerous," Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.) said in a statement announcing the bill's reintroduction. "Our NATO allies have fought alongside our troops since World War II, yet President Trump disparages these nations and cozies up to our adversaries." The other co-sponsors are Sens. Cory Gardner (R-Colo.), Jack Reed (D-R.I.), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Chris Coons (D-Del.), Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) and Susan Collins (R-Maine). The same bill was introduced last year after Trump rattled NATO allies at a July summit in Brussels. The sponsors last time were Kaine, Gardner, Reed and the late Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.). The reintroduction comes after a New York Times report that Trump told aides several times last year that he wants to withdraw from NATO. One of the occasions when Trump reportedly raised the issue of withdrawal was the lead-up to the NATO summit in July, when he told his top national security officials he did not see the point of the alliance and thought it was a drain on the United States. Right now, presidents are required to get the consent of the Senate to enter into treaties. Article 13 of the NATO treaty requires a country give a one-year "notice of denunciation" before it can exit NATO. In addition to requiring Senate approval for Trump to withdraw, the bill reintroduced Thursday would authorize the Senate Legal Counsel and the General Counsel of the House to challenge in court any attempt by the administration to withdraw from NATO without the Senate's consent. In statements touting the resolution, the co-sponsors stressed the importance of a strong NATO alliance. "NATO is more

important than ever with Russia's growing subversive activities in the region and beyond," Rubio said. "It is critical to our national security and the security of our allies in Europe that the United States remain engaged and play an active role in NATO.'" (*The Hill*, 1/17/19)

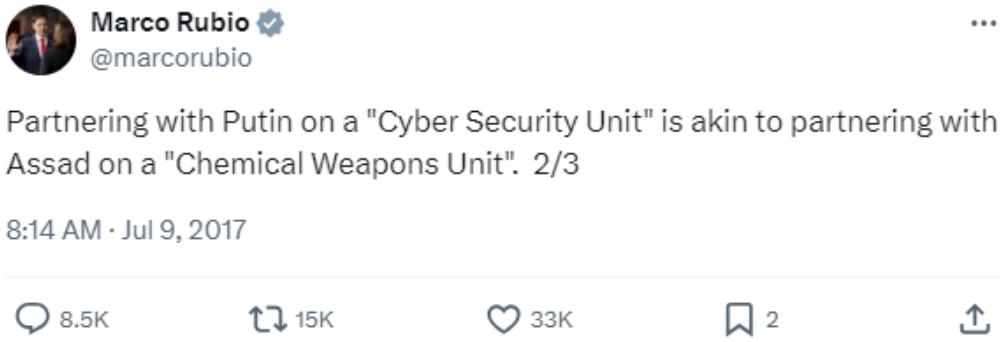
RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S POSTURE TOWARDS RUSSIA

In 2017, Rubio Criticized Trump's Suggestion To Pair With Russia On Cybersecurity Measures

In 2017, Rubio Criticized Trump's Suggestion To Pair With Russia On Cybersecurity Measures. "After returning from the G-20 conference, Donald Trump emitted a storming Twitter assessment of his successes, including progress on cybersecurity. Many believe Russia used hacking to meddle in the US election. Indeed, the president declared: "I strongly pressed President Putin twice about Russian meddling in our election. He vehemently denied it. I've already given my opinion...." It's not always been clear what that opinion is. Still, Trump added these words on the alleged hacking in another tweet: "Why did Obama do NOTHING when he had info before election?" It might seem discordant, therefore, that he also tweeted: "Putin & I discussed forming an impenetrable Cyber Security unit so that election hacking, & many other negative things, will be guarded.." The US security services seem to agree that Russia was responsible for the hacking. Why, then, would the US band together with Russia in order to create something "impenetrable" to prevent further hacking? Some might worry that Russia might find a way around that claimed impenetrability. Within minutes of Trump's tweetstorm, GOP Sen. Marco Rubio took to Twitter to express his opposition. "While reality & pragmatism requires that we engage Vladimir Putin, he will never be a trusted ally or a reliable constructive partner," he began. And then he hissed: "Partnering with Putin on a 'Cyber Security Unit' is akin to partnering with Assad on a 'Chemical Weapons Unit.'" (CNET, 7/9/17)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
While reality & pragmatism requires that we engage Vladimir Putin, he will never be a trusted ally or a reliable constructive partner. 1/3
8:10 AM · Jul 9, 2017
927
1.3K
4.3K

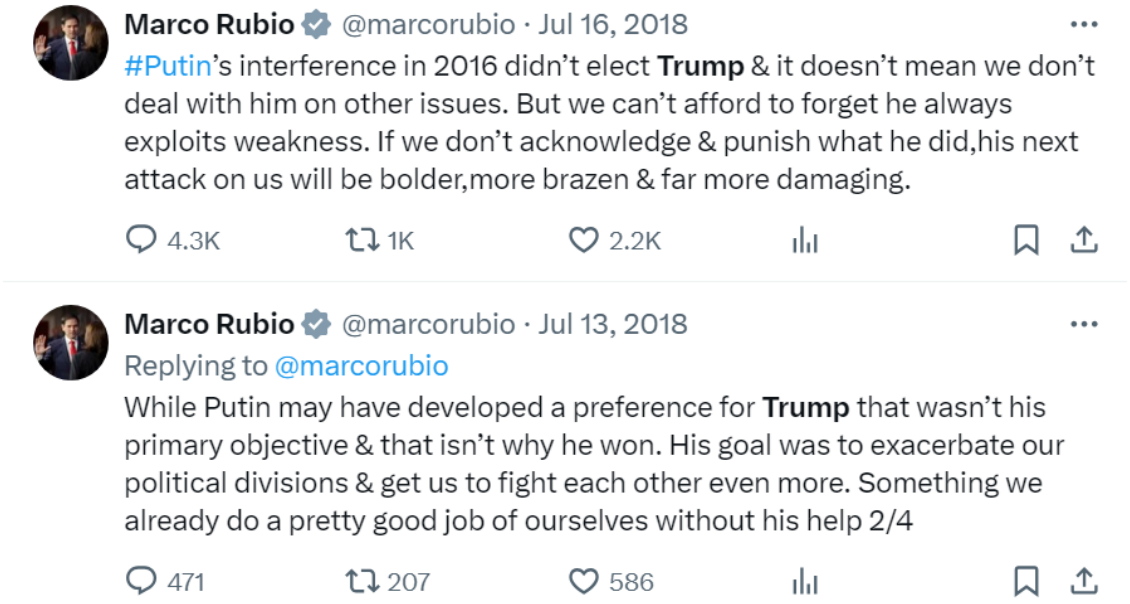
(Twitter, 7/9/17)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
Partnering with Putin on a "Cyber Security Unit" is akin to partnering with Assad on a "Chemical Weapons Unit". 2/3
8:14 AM · Jul 9, 2017
8.5K
15K
33K
2

(Twitter, 7/9/17)

In 2018, Rubio Underscored That Putin Interfered In The 2016 Election, Developed A Preference For Trump, And Should Be Punished For Having Done So

In 2018, Rubio Underscored That Putin Interfered In The 2016 Election, Developed A Preference For Trump, And Should Be Punished For Having Done So. (Twitter, 7/16/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 16, 2018
#Putin's interference in 2016 didn't elect Trump & it doesn't mean we don't deal with him on other issues. But we can't afford to forget he always exploits weakness. If we don't acknowledge & punish what he did,his next attack on us will be bolder,more brazen & far more damaging.
4.3K
1K
2.2K
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 13, 2018
Replying to @marcorubio
While Putin may have developed a preference for Trump that wasn't his primary objective & that isn't why he won. His goal was to exacerbate our political divisions & get us to fight each other even more. Something we already do a pretty good job of ourselves without his help 2/4
471
207
586

(Twitter, 7/16/18)

In 2018, Rubio Did Not Criticize Trump For Meeting With Putin In Finland But Was Critical Of How The Meeting Had Left "The Impression That My Intelligence Community Says One Thing, Putin Says Another, I'm Siding With Putin, And That Was A Bad Impression To Leave Behind"

In 2018, Rubio Did Not Criticize Trump For Meeting With Putin In Finland But Was Critical Of How The Meeting Had Left "The Impression That My Intelligence Community Says One Thing, Putin Says Another, I'm Siding With Putin, And That Was A Bad Impression To Leave Behind." "Florida GOP Sen. Marco Rubio said Sunday that he supports

President Donald Trump interacting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, but said Trump should be aware of Putin's human rights record and zero-sum approach to the US-Russia relationship. "I don't have a problem with the President of the United States interacting with the president of the Russian Federation," Rubio said. "They've got a lot of nuclear weapons, and so we do need to interact with them. That is separate from the question of whether or not we should be clear-eyed about who Putin is." Rubio, who made his comments in an interview on CNN's "State of the Union," said he regretted Trump's handling of his meeting with Putin in Helsinki, Finland, last week, where he appeared to side with Putin over the US intelligence community on alleged Russian efforts to influence the 2016 election. Trump clarified his remarks after returning to the United States, saying that after reviewing a transcript and video of his statements, he realized he had misspoken in a key sentence about Russian interference in the 2016 US election. "The sentence should have been: 'I don't see any reason why it wouldn't be Russia,' " he said. "Sort of a double negative." Referring to Trump's claim later that he meant to say "wouldn't" instead of "would" at the summit, Rubio said, "I'm glad he came back the next day and sort of walked that back." Rubio said he did not "know what to believe" about Trump's "would" versus "wouldn't" remarks, but he reiterated that he was glad Trump tried to walk back the remark. "I don't think it was a good moment for this administration, and I disagreed with it," Rubio said. "I know he came back the next day and said something to clean that up. And I'm glad that he did it, you know? I'm glad that he cleaned that up because it left, if you watched that video, it leaves the impression that my intelligence community says one thing, Putin says another, I'm siding with Putin, and that was a bad impression to leave behind." He added, "I don't like the way this was handled.'" (CNN, 7/22/18)

In 2018, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump's Rhetoric For Not Reflecting The Threat Posed By Russia And Putin But Did Not The Trump Administration's Policies Did So

In 2018, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump's Rhetoric For Not Reflecting The Threat Posed By Russia And Putin But Did Not The Trump Administration's Policies Did So. "Rubio counts himself as one of Putin's chief critics in Washington, and in his interview Sunday, he accused Putin of perpetrating war crimes and killing political opponents. He said that because of Trump's lack of political background, there was at times a clash between Trump's approach to Putin and the more hardline approach other politicians might have delivered in his position. "I don't have any doubt that President Trump is aware of the things Vladimir Putin has done," Rubio said. "I'm not sure his rhetoric reflects that, but his policies do." In his assessment of Putin, Rubio said he did not believe the Russian leader expected a better relationship with the United States and was more "interested in gaining advantage at our expense and to his benefit.'" (CNN, 7/22/18)

In 2019, Rubio Was Among The Senators To Vote "To Advance Legislation Blocking President Trump's Plan To Lift Sanctions Against Three Russian Companies Despite An Eleventh-Hour Effort By The Administration To Kill The Bill"

In 2019, Rubio Was Among The Senators To Vote "To Advance Legislation Blocking President Trump's Plan To Lift Sanctions Against Three Russian Companies Despite An Eleventh-Hour Effort By The Administration To Kill The Bill." "The Senate voted to advance legislation blocking President Trump's plan to lift sanctions against three Russian

companies despite an eleventh-hour effort by the administration to kill the bill. Senators voted 57-42 to begin debating the resolution, with only a simple majority needed to get over the initial hurdle. Though only a procedural vote, it's the latest foreign policy break between the Trump administration and Senate Republicans, who have been wary of his warmer rhetoric toward Moscow. It comes amid reports that the president has discussed pulling the United States out of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). "I do disapprove of the easing of the sanctions because I think it sends the wrong message to Russia and to the oligarch and close ally of Mr. Putin, Oleg Deripaska, who will in my judgement continue to maintain considerable [ownership] under the Treasury's plan," Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine) told reporters. {mosads}In addition to Collins, GOP Sens. John Boozman (Ark.), Tom Cotton (Ark.), Steve Daines (Mont.) Cory Gardner (Colo.), Josh Hawley (Mo.), John Kennedy (La.), Martha McSally (Ariz.), Jerry Moran (Kan.), Marco Rubio (Fla.) and Ben Sasse (Neb.) voted to proceed to the resolution on Tuesday. The same senators also helped block a separate effort from Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) to pigeonhole the measure. The setback for the administration comes after it announced plans late last month to relax sanctions on the three businesses — Rusal, EN+ and EuroSibEnerg — connected to Oleg Deripaska, an oligarch with ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Under the 2017 sanctions bill, Democrats are able to force a vote on a resolution to block the administration from lifting the financial penalties. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin led a lobbying effort to try to squelch concerns on Capitol Hill about the decision. He met with House Democrats last week and pitched Senate Republicans during a closed-door lunch Tuesday, hours before the vote. Mnuchin declined to say if he believed the administration had the votes to prevent the Senate from passing the resolution of disapproval but argued it shouldn't be a "political issue." But he added that the administration believed the sanctions against the three companies should be lifted because Deripaska's ownership in the entities has fallen below 50 percent. "We put together an agreement that we think meets the requirements of the laws and the regulations to do this," Mnuchin said. {mossecondads}Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) echoed Mnuchin in opposing the resolution to block the sanctions from being lifted. "I will vote 'no' today because this was a hard-fought negotiation resulting in one of the strongest agreements ever, which supports long-standing U.S. sanctions policy and foreign policy toward Russia," he said. GOP leadership had been tight-lipped about whether they would be able to pull together the simple majority needed to sink the Democratic resolution, noting a swath of their members wanted to hear from Mnuchin. Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.) said "a lot of our members are anxious to ask questions" of the Trump administration before the vote. "Whether we get on it, is still kind of an open question, I think," Thune said. McConnell separately knocked Democrats for forcing the Russia vote even as they are blocking a GOP foreign policy bill as part of their shutdown strategy. "It was all just a farce. The Democratic leader doesn't actually mind doing other business because he now intends to bring a privileged and political stunt of a motion relating to the administration's use of sanctions against Russia," McConnell said. Democrats needed to win over at least four Republicans to advance the resolution, provided they could also unite their own caucus. They could still face a 60-vote threshold filibuster of the measure before a final passage vote, which would require them to get 13 GOP senators. Gardner, a member of the Foreign Relations Committee and a vulnerable 2020 incumbent, said on Tuesday that he would support the resolution. "I anticipate voting to overturn the decision by the administration," Gardner told reporters. Rubio added that while he "appreciated" the Treasury Department's effort, "for all

intents and purposes between his shares, the independent shares that the Russian state owned bank control, and various other individual shareholders I still think he retains operational control … So they're going to have to do better." Democrats announced over the weekend that they would force a vote to stop the Trump administration from being able to lift the sanctions." (*The Hill*, 1/15/19)

In 2022, Rubio Said It Was "Unfortunate" Trump Was Using Language In Seeming Praise Of Putin And Called On Trump To Be More "Careful" With His Wording

In 2022, Rubio Said It Was "Unfortunate" Trump Was Using Language In Seeming Praise Of Putin And Called On Trump To Be More "Careful" With His Wording. "Donald Trump may have called Vladimir Putin "savvy" and a "genius," but to U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio those controversial comments are just sarcasm. Rubio, who continues to do multiple interviews a day on the Ukraine crisis, was asked Tuesday about Trump's comments made last week on a conservative talk radio program, where the former President seemed to extol the Russian leader and possible war criminal for smart moves in invading Ukraine last week. "I heard that interview, OK? I'm not going off the press reports. I heard the interview. I didn't hear him say that. I heard what I heard. A guy who was being sarcastic. He was saying, 'Oh, look at this guy, he's a genius, this, that and the other," Rubio said on CNBC's Squawk Box Tuesday. "The problem is people think Donald Trump is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He doesn't talk like that! He doesn't talk like some analyst at a think tank. He doesn't talk like most people in Washington," Rubio added. "But right after he said that stuff — and I don't agree with all the stuff he's said about Russia — right after he said all that stuff that people are pointing to, he talked about how we need to impose crushing sanctions," Rubio continued. Despite advocating said crushing sanctions, the fact remains Trump offered a singularly dichotomous comparison of the American and Russian leaders in extended comments last week. "Well, what went wrong was a rigged election, and what went wrong is a candidate that shouldn't be there and a man that has no concept of what he's doing. I went in yesterday and there was a television screen, and I said, 'This is genius.' Putin declares a big portion of the Ukraine — of Ukraine — Putin declares it as independent. Oh, that's wonderful," Trump said on the Clay Travis and Buck Sexton program. Though the transcript includes the descriptor "(sarcastic)" after Trump's "Oh, that's wonderful," the sarcasm did not apply to the preceding statements. Trump has been very clear in his position that the 2020 election was not legitimate, and he has routinely bashed Biden's competency as well. The former President continued in tones of admiration that didn't seem especially sarcastic. "So, Putin is now saying it's independent, a large section of Ukraine. I said, 'How smart is that?' And he's gonna go in and be a peacekeeper. That's the strongest peace force, we could use that on our southern border. That's the strongest peace force I've ever seen. There were more army tanks than I've ever seen. They're gonna keep peace all right. No, but think of it. Here's a guy who's very savvy. I know him very well. Very, very well," Trump said. "You gotta say that's pretty savvy. And you know what the response was from Biden? There was no response. They didn't have one for that. No, it's very sad. Very sad," Trump added. Rubio said it was "unfortunate" that Trump used that language, arguing that other Republicans used language praising Putin's savvy that was "twisted." "You gotta be careful with every word that you say, because a media narrative will be created against you," Rubio said." (Florida Politics, 3/1/22)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S POSTURE TOWARDS NORTH KOREA

In 2019, Rubio "Said President Donald Trump's Tweet That He Would Reverse Sanctions On North Korea That Had Just Been Imposed By The Treasury Department Could Cause People To Second-Guess Future Announcements Of Sanctions"

In 2019, Rubio "Said President Donald Trump's Tweet That He Would Reverse Sanctions On North Korea That Had Just Been Imposed By The Treasury Department Could Cause People To Second-Guess Future Announcements Of Sanctions." "Sen. Marco Rubio on Sunday said President Donald Trump's tweet that he would reverse sanctions on North Korea that had just been imposed by the Treasury Department could cause people to second-guess future announcements of sanctions. Rubio (R-Fla.) said sanctions go through "a long interagency process" and must be OK'd by the president before they are announced. "Frankly, look, I think people around the world would look at it and say from now on, when they hear about sanctions, they're going to ask for a double confirmation from the White House," he said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "So, look, I wish it hadn't happened that way, and it shouldn't have happened that way." Trump's Friday tweet set off widespread confusion when he appeared to announce that he would undo recently imposed sanctions on North Korea. "It was announced today by the U.S. Treasury that additional large scale Sanctions would be added to those already existing Sanctions on North Korea," Trump wrote. "I have today ordered the withdrawal of those additional Sanctions!" After hours of uncertainty, administration officials insisted Trump had not been referring to the new sanctions on North Korea that his administration rolled out a day before. Instead, the officials claimed, the president was saying he was opposing not-yet-announced sanctions on Pyongyang. "I've never seen that before from this or any administration, so something happened here," Rubio said." (*Politico*, 3/24/19)

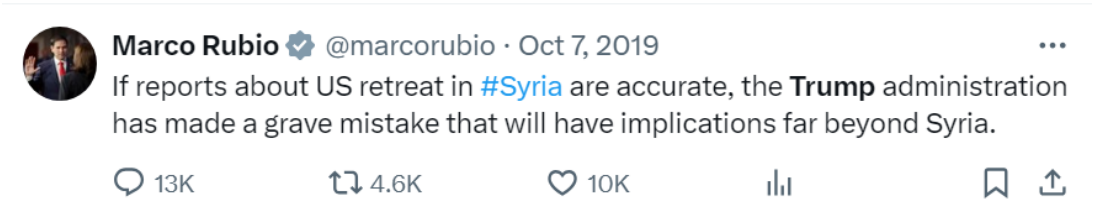
In 2019, Rubio "Also Said He's Skeptical That Ongoing Negotiations Between Trump And North Korean Dictator Kim Jong Un Would Lead The Asian Country To Give Up Its Nuclear Weapons"

In 2019, Rubio "Also Said He's Skeptical That Ongoing Negotiations Between Trump And North Korean Dictator Kim Jong Un Would Lead The Asian Country To Give Up Its Nuclear Weapons." "The senator also said he's skeptical that ongoing negotiations between Trump and North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un would lead the Asian country to give up its nuclear weapons. "I would love for Kim Jong Un to give up his weapons and everything else," Rubio said. "And I don't criticize the president for trying. I just never believed he would. I don't believe he ever will. "I'm not skeptical because I want it to fail; I'm skeptical because I believe it will fail," he said." (*Politico*, 3/24/19)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S POSTURE TOWARDS SYRIA

In 2019, Rubio Criticized Trump's Decision To Withdraw Troops For Northeast Syria Noting "If Reports About US Retreat In #Syria Are Accurate, The Trump Administration Has Made A Grave Mistake That Will Have Implications Far Beyond Syria"

In October 2019, Rubio Criticized Trump's Decision To Withdraw Troops For Northeast Syria Noting "If Reports About US Retreat In #Syria Are Accurate, The Trump Administration Has Made A Grave Mistake That Will Have Implications Far Beyond Syria." (Twitter, 10/7/19)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Oct 7, 2019
If reports about US retreat in #Syria are accurate, the Trump administration has made a grave mistake that will have implications far beyond Syria.
13K
4.6K
10K

(Twitter, 10/7/19)

In 2018, Rubio Was Among The Senators To "A Letter To President Trump… Asking Him To Reconsider His Decision To Begin Withdrawing Troops From Syria"

In December 2018, Rubio Was Among The Senators To "A Letter To President Trump… Asking Him To Reconsider His Decision To Begin Withdrawing Troops From Syria." "A bipartisan group of senators sent a letter to President Trump on Wednesday asking him to reconsider his decision to begin withdrawing troops from Syria. In the letter, Sens. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), Joni Ernst (R-Iowa), Angus King (I-Maine), Tom Cotton (R-Ark.) and Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), expressed concern that withdrawing U.S. troops from Syria would "renew and embolden" ISIS's efforts in the region. "We write today to express our concern regarding your Administration's consideration to withdraw U.S. forces from Syria," the senators wrote. "We believe that such action at this time is a premature and costly mistake that not only threatens the safety and security of the United States, but also emboldens ISIS, Bashar al Assad, Iran, and Russia." {mosads}"If you decide to follow through with your decision to pull our troops out of Syria, any remnants of ISIS in Syria will surely renew and embolden their efforts in the region," they continued. "However, ISIS is not the only threat. The brutal dictatorship of Bashar al Assad continues to weigh heavily upon the Syrian people, and we fear that a withdrawal of our troops may embolden Bashar al Assad to take further actions to solidify his power," they added. The senators also said they believed removing American presence from Syria would give a boost to "two other adversaries," Iran and Russia. "As you are aware, both Iran and Russia have used the Syrian conflict as a stage to magnify their influence in the region," the senators wrote. "Any sign of weakness perceived by Iran or Russia will only result in their increased presence in the region and a decrease in the trust of our partners and allies." The senators urged the president not to "repeat the same mistakes" made by administrations before

his. “Your administration must not repeat the same mistakes that previous administrations have made and concede to these bad actors,” they wrote. Trump declared victory against ISIS in Syria on Wednesday morning in a tweet after The Wall Street Journal, followed by The Washington Post, reported that he was preparing an immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Syria. “We have defeated ISIS in Syria, my only reason for being there during the Trump Presidency,” the president tweeted. The White House confirmed in a statement Wednesday that the administration has “started returning United States troops home” but emphasized that coalition efforts in Syria would continue. It also doubled down on Trump’s claim that “the United States has defeated the territorial caliphate.” “The United States and our allies stand ready to re-engage at all levels to defend American interests whenever necessary, and we will continue to work together to deny radical Islamist terrorists territory, funding, support, and any means of infiltrating our borders,” White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said in a statement. Senate Republicans, in a rare move, lashed out at Trump over the decision, with several lawmakers saying Congress received no warning of Trump’s announcement. “It’s a terrible decision,” Rubio said earlier Wednesday. “I hope it can be entirely or at least partially reversed, or we’re going to pay a big price for it in the years to come.” “I don’t know what they’ve done, but this is chaos,” Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), a staunch Trump ally and Armed Services Committee member, told reporters earlier that day.” (The Hill, 12/19/18)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP’S ECONOMIC POLICY CONCERNING TARIFFS

In 2018, Rubio Argued Trump “Should Drop Tariff Fight With Our Allies In Europe, Asia And Latin America. We Can Work Out Our Differences With Them Later”

In 2018, Rubio Argued Trump “Should Drop Tariff Fight With Our Allies In Europe, Asia And Latin America. We Can Work Out Our Differences With Them Later.” (Twitter, 5/3/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · May 3, 2018
This is why Trump administration should drop tariff fight with our allies in Europe, Asia and Latin America. We can work out our differences with them later. Right now the focus needs to be on #China & our allies appear ready to join us.
EU Is Ready to Fight Back Against China's Growing Trade Dominance
From bloomberg.com
177
164
399

(Twitter, 5/3/18)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S ECONOMIC POLICY CONCERNING TAX REFORM

"Rubio Voted For The GOP Tax Law Last Year. But Some Republicans Believe He Complicated The Party's Vigorous Defense Of The Measure With Recent Comments To The Economist Magazine About Corporations"

"Rubio Voted For The GOP Tax Law Last Year. But Some Republicans Believe He Complicated The Party's Vigorous Defense Of The Measure With Recent Comments To The Economist Magazine About Corporations." "Rubio voted for the GOP tax law last year. But some Republicans believe he complicated the party's vigorous defense of the measure with recent comments to the Economist magazine about corporations. The senator's advisers said that where he agrees with Trump, he will have no reservations about saying so, and when he disagrees, he will also speak out. The Florida senator has found ways to work with Trump on foreign policy, including on his harder-line Cuba policy that marked a shift from the Obama administration's approach. Rubio has also praised officials who are working with Trump to shape policies abroad, including Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin. But he is also trying to fashion his own brand, which took a significant hit in the 2016 presidential primary. Trump labeled him "Little Marco" to devastating effect. Rubio ended his campaign in his home state after Trump defeated him there by a wide margin." (*The Washington Post*, 5/23/18)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S LAW AND ORDER POLICY CONCERNING THE 'FIRST STEP ACT'

In 2018, "Sen. Marco Rubio Was One Of Just 12 Senators To Vote Against The First Step Act, A Bipartisan Criminal Justice Bill That Overwhelmingly Passed The Senate On Tuesday Night"

In December 2018, "Sen. Marco Rubio Was One Of Just 12 Senators To Vote Against The First Step Act, A Bipartisan Criminal Justice Bill That Overwhelmingly Passed The Senate On Tuesday Night." "Sen. Marco Rubio was one of just 12 Senators to vote against the First Step Act, a bipartisan criminal justice bill that overwhelmingly passed the Senate on Tuesday night. The bill, backed by the White House and a coalition of Republicans and Democrats, would retroactively reduce the disparity in prison sentences for people arrested for crack vs cocaine, gives judges more discretion at sentencing and eases the so-called "three strike rule" so repeat offenders are guaranteed 25 years of prison, not life. It also included more money for post-prison rehabilitation programs and halfway houses, and to study methods for reducing recidivism rates. Advocates for the bill, mainly criminal justice reform groups, lobbied hard for Rubio's support. But in a brief statement Tuesday night, Rubio vaguely said the bill "did not address serious concerns raised by local law enforcement, federal prosecutors and constituents in Florida about the sentencing reforms in this bill." "As I've said before, reforms to our criminal justice system are needed because 95 percent of federal inmates will be released at some point," he added. "Preparing them to integrate into society and find meaningful work is in our best interests, but we must always err on the side of public safety." He elaborated his opposition somewhat on Fox

News radio yesterday. Here's what he said: "Let me just tell you that I think everyone is in favor of the first part of that bill which I've long supported as a separate bill and that is the idea that if someone is going to get out of jail anyway, they're scheduled to be out of jail in 10 years, 5 years or 15 years it behooves us, it's in our interest, to make sure that those people have training and those people have skills acquisition and the kinds of things that you need in order to be successful so you don't go back to jail. The second part of it is what's troubling and that is the incentive that they want to use to get these people to take these services is a reduction on the back end, a credit time, credit for the back end where they're able to serve part of the sentence in a halfway house or even in non-detention home probation. Whatever it might be. And then on the front end also reducing some mandatory sentences for certain cases. That's the part that I get nervous about because ultimately you're talking about some very bad people that have done some horrible things. We have to be very careful when we start walking in that direction. I think mandatory minimum sentences can sometimes have impacts that you look at it and say aren't fair, but we also have to recognize mandatory and minimum sentences have taken really terrible human beings off the streets for long periods of time. The best way to prevent a criminal from committing another crime is to not let them get out there…I'm not sure given the Amendments that are out there that they could ever get to the point where I'm 100% confident. I don't understand why we didn't just do this for a small select group of crimes and start from there and build it up as oppose to the reverse, but they've decided to take a huge bite of the apple. If I'm uncomfortable in the end I'm going to air on the side of public safety and vote against it.”” (*Tampa Bay Times*, 12/19/18)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED TRUMP'S HANDLING OF COVID

VIDEO: In 2020, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump's Handling Of COVID And His Push To Reopen By Easter Noting "I Don't Think We Can Solely Make This Decision On The Basis Of Economics Because You Can't Have A Growing Economy If You've Got A Significant Percentage Of Your Population Dying And Your Hospitals Aren't Working"

VIDEO: In 2020, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump's Handling Of COVID And His Push To Reopen By Easter Noting "I Don't Think We Can Solely Make This Decision On The Basis Of Economics Because You Can't Have A Growing Economy If You've Got A Significant Percentage Of Your Population Dying And Your Hospitals Aren't Working." (Fox News, 3/25/20)


FOX NEWS
SEN RUBIO (R-FL): SYSTEMS ARE NOT SET UP TO HANDLE 20%-25% UNEMPLOYMENT
YOUR WORLD | CAVUTO
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC
TASK FORCE BRIEFING
SOON
0:18
ALTHOUGH STIMULUS BILL GRANTS STUDENTS SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION OF LOAN PAYMENTS, BIDEN

(Fox News, 3/25/20)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED MAGA-ALIGNED REPUBLICANS

In 2021, Rubio Implicitly Criticized Marjorie Taylor-Greene Noting "Reporting That A Politician Believes In/Flirts With Conspiracy Theories Is Legit, But The Attention They Get Should Be Proportional To Their Ability To Influence Actual Public Policy Don't Make Them Famous, Help Them Raise Money Or Elevate Conspiracy Theories"

In February 2021, Rubio Implicitly Criticized Marjorie Taylor-Greene Noting "Reporting That A Politician Believes In/Flirts With Conspiracy Theories Is Legit, But The Attention They Get Should Be Proportional To Their Ability To Influence Actual Public Policy Don't Make Them Famous, Help Them Raise Money Or Elevate Conspiracy Theories." (Twitter, 2/3/21)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
Reporting that a politician believes in/flirts with conspiracy theories is legit, but the attention they get should be proportional to their ability to influence actual public policy
Don't make them famous, help them raise money or elevate conspiracy theories
7:13 AM · Feb 3, 2021
2.7K
1.1K
11

(Twitter, 2/3/21)

"While Rubio Doesn't Identify The Subject Of His Entreaty, It's Not Hard To Suss Out"

"While Rubio Doesn't Identify The Subject Of His Entreaty, It's Not Hard To Suss Out." "While Rubio doesn't identify the subject of his entreaty, it's not hard to suss out. It's legitimate to report on the embrace of conspiracy theories, he says, but such reports should be constrained by their political power. In other words, Greene's position as a freshman backbencher in the House should temper the attention she receives. It's a fair point, and certainly a better approach to Greene than the one offered by Rubio's colleague, Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.), who told a CNN reporter that he was too busy dealing with weather-related travel issues to be familiar with Greene's nonsense portfolio. The media must be cautious when it elevates false claims because it poses the risk of spreading untrue information and rallying more people to the fringe." (*Washington Post*, 2/3/21)

VIDEO: In January 2024, Rubio Blames The Failure Of The 2024 Senate Border Security Measure On Biden Essentially Out-Maneuvering "The Crazy Republican Maga People In The House…"

VIDEO: In January 2024, Rubio Blames The Failure Of The 2024 Senate Border Security Measure On Biden Essentially Out-Maneuvering "The Crazy Republican Maga People In The House…" (Fox News, 1/22/24)


MARCO RUBIO (R) | FLORIDA SENATOR
FOX NEWS channel
BIDEN ADMIN'S TX LAWSUIT REVEALS BORDER HYPOCRISY
0:13 / 0:18
THE INGRAHAM ANGLE

(Fox News, 1/22/24)

RUBIO HAS DEEP TIES TO THE REPUBLICAN ESTABLISHMENT AND "GOP ELITES"

Rubio Is Known To Have Previously Led "GOP Elites" On Immigration And Hispanic Issues

Rubio Is Known To Have Previously Led "GOP Elites" On Immigration And Hispanic Issues. "There's even a case to be made that Rubio might be a likelier Republican nominee in 2016 if his lily-white party hasn't addressed its policy problems with Hispanics. What's not in doubt is his influence. The legislation's fate in the Republican-controlled House as well as the Senate may depend on Rubio's blessing. GOP elites often follow his lead on Hispanic issues; the party's presidential candidates all boycotted a proposed Univision debate after he got into a spat with the network, and Ryan endorsed his immigration principles the day he announced them." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Rubio Has Long Standing Ties To Jeb Bush – A Man Rubio Once Considered His Mentor

Rubio Is Known To Have Once Counted Jeb Bush As His Political Mentor. "Rubio says he has no idea what he'll do in 2016—run for re-election, "run for something else" or return to the private sector. Some insiders remain dubious that he'll seek the "something else" route so early in his career. He's had some awkward personal-finance issues. One of his closest friends and allies, former Congressman David Rivera, is embroiled in a corruption scandal. And his political mentor, Jeb Bush, might seek the White House himself. Their friends assume Rubio would defer in that case, though it was curious that when I asked him whether he had discussed his immigration work with Bush, who has a book coming out on the subject, he said he sent a text message." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

- **Rubio Is Also Known To Have Been Closely Linked To Bush Loyalist Al Cardenas, Who Was Rubio's First Boss After Law School.** "His political career began during his

last term in law school when he ran Dade County's efforts for Bob Dole's presidential campaign. The job brought him into contact with men who would shape his political career: Al Cardenas, a prominent lawyer and later the state GOP chairman; Al Lorenzo, a campaign manager who was becoming Dade County's kingmaker; and Jeb Bush, the ex-president's son and future Florida governor. After Dole lost, Rubio went to work for Cardenas's law firm, Tew Cardenas. At that time, he met a former Dolphins cheerleader named Jeanette Dousdebes, a gorgeous Colombian-American with long blond hair. They married in 1998. That same year, he decided to run for city commission in West Miami, a hamlet of 5,800 people tucked south of Tamiami Trail and west of Red Road." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Bush Prominently Backed And Defended Rubio During His 2010 Senate Campaign Against Crist; Many Considered "Rubio To Be Jeb Bush's Ideological Heir. At Mr. Rubio's Swearing In As Florida House Speaker In 2006, Mr. Bush Told A Story About "Chang The Mystical Warrior" Of Conservative Causes Before Presenting Mr. Rubio With A Golden "Sword Of The Conservative Warrior." "Gov. Crist's campaign has also gone after Mr. Rubio for double billing state taxpayers and the Republican Party of Florida for eight flights while he was speaker of the house, a screw-up Mr. Rubio calls an "unfortunate" but honest error. A few weeks ago, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush finally broke his silence in the Crist-Rubio battle. He called Mr. Crist's support for the Obama stimulus spending bill "unforgivable" and a "mistake," saying the bill was more about advancing a permanent left-wing agenda than meeting an economic emergency. It's been a long time coming for those who consider Mr. Rubio to be Jeb Bush's ideological heir. At Mr. Rubio's swearing in as Florida house speaker in 2006, Mr. Bush told a story about "Chang the mystical warrior" of conservative causes before presenting Mr. Rubio with a golden "sword of the conservative warrior." From the popular two-term governor, Mr. Rubio says he learned that policy has to come from principle. "You're going to get criticized. You're not always going to please everybody," he says. But "even people who disagree with you will ultimately respect the fact that they knew where you stood.'" (*The Wall Street Journal*, 3/13/10)



(*Politico*, 1/15/15)

"It's Certainly True That Bush And Rubio Admire And Support One Another. Rubio's First Job Out Of Law School Was With The Firm Of Al Cardenas, The Cuban-Born Miami Lawyer Who Was Already Close To Bush And Later Became His State Party Chairman. Bush Donated To Rubio's First Run For Elective Office, A West Miami City Commission Seat In 1998, The Same Year Bush Was Elected Governor. Bush Introduced Rubio At His Election Night Party In 2010 When He Defeated Republican-Turned-Independent Gov. Charlie Crist." "It's certainly true that Bush and Rubio admire and support one another. Rubio's first job out of law school was with the firm of Al Cardenas, the Cuban-born Miami lawyer who was already close to Bush and later became his state party chairman. Bush donated to Rubio's first run for elective office, a West Miami city commission seat in 1998, the same year Bush was elected governor. Bush introduced Rubio at his election night party in 2010 when he defeated Republican-turned-independent Gov. Charlie Crist. But "mentor" in the traditional sense of working closely with a younger colleague? That did not really happen. In fact, Bush's archived emails suggest that for most of the seven years the two men shared in Tallahassee, their relationship was similar to those Bush had with all the other lawmakers outside of the House and Senate presiding officers. In spring of 2002, Rubio met with Bush about a $750,000 state grant request for West Miami's sewage plant. The grant nevertheless wound up on the list of projects Bush would veto. In 2003, Rubio helped Miami with a $200,000 request to restore its historic city hall. In 2005, Bush asked for Rubio's help lobbying some Miami-Dade state senators on an education bill he wanted." (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

"Rubio Describes Bush In His 2012 Memoir An American Son As The Man He Admires Most In Florida Politics, Calling Him A "One-Man Idea Factory.'" "For his part, Rubio describes Bush in his 2012 memoir An American Son as the man he admires most in Florida politics, calling him a "one-man idea factory." But Rubio uses neither "mentor" nor "protégé" in his discussions of the governor. There are a few people who do fit that protégé description in Bush's orbit—first are his sons, George P. and Jeb Jr. The elder, George P., has already, at age 38, won statewide office in Texas, as land commissioner. (Jeb was seven years older than that before he won his first big election.) And outside Bush's family is Brian Yablonski, who might be the closest thing Bush had to an intellectual and ideological soulmate during his years in Tallahassee. Yablonski was a recent law school graduate when he went to work for Bush at his Foundation for Florida's Future between the failed 1994 bid for governor and the successful 1998 run. He co-wrote Profiles in Character, which Bush released in 1996 as he geared up for that second run. And then Yablonski wound up in Bush's governor's office as a top policy adviser. (He eventually left to raise a young family—something not easily done keeping the long hours Bush demanded of his inner circle.)" (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

"When Bush's Office Proposed That Many Of His Top-Level Policy Aides Could Go Work In Rubio's House, Rubio Was Eager To Help. Bush, In Turn, Offered To Let Rubio Place Some Of His Prospective Hires In Governor's Office Jobs Prior To His Officially Taking Over." "By the time Rubio actually started his term as Florida House speaker in November 2006, Bush had but a few weeks left in the governor's office. And it is in the year leading to that transition where the two actually worked together most closely. It turns out that another thing the two had in common beyond the "Sword of Chiang" was Charlie Crist, the (then) Republican attorney general who succeeded Bush as governor. Neither man trusted Crist to continue Bush's

policies in education, taxes and other areas. (The suspicion was well-founded. Crist tried to undo a number of what Bush considered his signature, conservative achievements.) So when Bush's office proposed that many of his top-level policy aides could go work in Rubio's House, Rubio was eager to help. Bush, in turn, offered to let Rubio place some of his prospective hires in governor's office jobs prior to his officially taking over. "We can also offer Speaker Rubio the chance to provide jobs in the executive as early as now for people he is recruiting," Bush wrote a top aide just days after the sword ceremony." (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

- **"In All, Rubio Hired 18 Of Bush's Top Advisers—More Than He Actually Had Openings For. To Make Room, 10 House Staffers, Some With Years Of Experience, Were Told They Would No Longer Have Jobs."** "In all, Rubio hired 18 of Bush's top advisers—more than he actually had openings for. To make room, 10 House staffers, some with years of experience, were told they would no longer have jobs. The Bush contingent also kept their six-figure salaries when they transitioned over—generating considerable resentment among legislative staff, for whom that level of compensation is pretty rare. That 2006 gubernatorial contest marked an end to two and a half decades of significant Jeb Bush roles in Florida's elections. From 1980 forward, there were only three November elections when he did not have a personal interest in the outcome, whether as the campaign chairman (Gov. Bob Martinez, 1990), the son of a vice presidential or presidential candidate (1980, 1984, 1988, 1992), the brother of a presidential candidate (2000, 2004) or the gubernatorial candidate himself (1994, 1998, 2002). But in the election to replace him, it was clear that whether Democrat Jim Davis or Republican Charlie Crist won, Bush's successor would not feel at all committed to preserving his legacy. And so Rubio's role in 2007 was in part as a vessel for keeping Bush's people at some of the levers of power, even after his own departure. For Bush, in the absence of an actual protégé to succeed him, it was the next best thing." (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

Jeb Bush Has Noted That Rubio "Followed [His] Lead" While He Was Governor. "From the start, Rubio made crucial alliances with politically powerful Cuban exiles. Rubio scored his first electoral victory in 1998, a seat on the West Miami City Commission, with a game-changing assist from a local power broker, Mayor Rebeca Sosa. Sosa, today a commissioner with Miami-Dade County, pointed out that she had been born in Camaguey, the same province as Rubio's mother, Oria. "I first met Oria, who was always active in the [West Miami] community at meetings here," Sosa tells me. "Then her son Marco introduced himself to me. I knew from the start that he was ready for bigger things." Two years later, having astutely worked Miami's Cuban politics, Rubio was seated in the Florida House, representing a lopsided district that included blue-collar Cuban Hialeah, the largely African-American and Dominican neighborhood of Allapattah and tony Coral Gables. That same year, Jeb Bush assumed office as governor, marking the first time since Reconstruction that the GOP controlled the governor's mansion, the Florida House and its Senate. "At that point, Jeb Bush was a god," says Dan Gelber, who served eight years in the Florida House, including as the Democratic leader, working amicably with Rubio. And Rubio, Gelber says, went from "being a foot soldier for Jeb Bush to becoming a lieutenant in Jeb's army." The Rubio-Jeb pecking order of those years is something Bush has been making clear of late. "Marco was a member of the House of Representatives when I was governor," Bush pointedly remarked in early October, as his mentee passed him in the polls,

"and he followed my lead." These days, Gelber says he thinks of Jeb Bush not only as Rubio's political commander-in-chief but what he calls a "frenenmentor—friend, enemy and mentor."' (*Politico*, 11/2015)

Rubio Has Previously Expressed Praise For George W. Bush And Dick Cheney

Rubio, In 2012: "George W. Bush, In My Opinion, Did A Fantastic Job As President Over Eight Years." "If Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) overcomes his objections and agrees to join Mitt Romney's 2012 ticket, I have a strong hunch this quote will become one of the more important tidbits of the year. "George W. Bush, in my opinion, did a fantastic job as president over eight years." In some Republican circles, many on the right choose to explain the spectacular failures of the Bush/Cheney era by saying the former president wasn't really a conservative, so his fiascos shouldn't be held against the conservative movement. After all, they argue, he was a liberal on spending, a moderate on immigration and education, a big-government advocate on entitlements like Medicare, and even a supporter of civil unions for gay and lesbian couples. Sure, Bush failed, the argument goes, but only because he wasn't a real conservative. Indeed, go back and look at the transcripts from the Republican presidential candidates debates over the last year -- when Bush's name came up, it was only to criticize his breaks with party orthodoxy on everything from deficits to No Child Left Behind to Medicare Part D. But while that was the standard line for quite a while, the tide appears to have turned. Rubio thinks Bush did "a fantastic job"; the Republican National Committee believes the party's agenda in 2013 will simply be a warmed over version of Bush's policies; and Romney has surrounded himself with Bush's former aides and advisors." (NBC News, 4/25/12)

In 2011, Rubio Announced That He Picked Cesar Conda "A Former Economic Adviser To Mitt Romney And Aide To Vice President Dick Cheney To Serve As His Chief Of Staff." "Sen. Marco Rubio announced Friday that he's tapped a former economic adviser to Mitt Romney and aide to Vice President Dick Cheney to serve as his chief of staff. "After a long and exhaustive search, I am pleased to announce that Cesar Conda has agreed to come on board as my chief of staff," announced Rubio in a press release. Rubio's office was bombarded with applications to work for the conservative superstar. In early January, Rubio announced his picks for senior staff after receiving more than 1,000 applications for 54 jobs with their office. But Rubio did not name his top staffer until this week: Conda, one of his top aides on the campaign and with the official transition team." (*Politico*, 1/28/11)

- **"Conda Previously Served As An Assistant To Vice President Dick Cheney On Domestic Policy, A Top Aide For Former Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-Mich.), Plus Advised Two Presidential Campaigns Including, Most Recently, Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's Bid For The White House In 2008."** "Conda previously served as an assistant to Vice President Dick Cheney on domestic policy, a top aide for former Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-Mich.), plus advised two presidential campaigns including, most recently, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's bid for the White House in 2008. The son of Cuban parents, Rubio rose to national political fame last year by forcing a popular, moderate Republican governor out of the primary, then resoundingly defeating him in the general election. Often hailed as the new face of the

GOP, he's mentioned as a possible presidential or vice presidential candidate — although he has denied an interest in either gig in the 2012 cycle." (*Politico*, 1/28/11)

- **By 2014, Conda Went On To "Lead Rubio's Reclaim America PAC As A Senior Adviser. Conda Will Remain As A Part-Time Adviser In Rubio's Senate Office."** "The chief of staff for Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) is stepping down post to become an adviser to Rubio's political-action committee, part of a series of staff changes announced Friday that will add to speculation about the freshman senator's plans for 2016. The departure of Cesar Conda, a longtime GOP insider who once worked for Vice President Dick Cheney, is the latest sign that Rubio is staffing up his political shop ahead of the 2016 presidential race. Rubio in recent weeks has openly discussed his political future, saying he will wait until next year to decide whether to run for president or for reelection in 2016. Florida law bars candidates from running in more than one race — but the moves announced Friday add to speculation that Rubio is leaning towards running for the White House. Rubio said in a release Friday that Conda, who has served as his chief of staff since 2011, will lead Rubio's Reclaim America PAC as a senior adviser. Conda will remain as a part-time adviser in Rubio's Senate office. Conda is a veteran Republican operative with deep connections across the GOP political and policy spectrum. He has spent his tenure helping develop Rubio's economic and foreign policies after previously serving as Dick Cheney's domestic policy adviser; as a top aide to former Sens. Spencer Abraham (R-Mich.) and Robert Kasten (R-Wis.); and as a policy adviser to the 1996 Dole-Kemp presidential campaign." (*Washington Post*, 4/11/14)

Rubio Was Noted To Have Been Vetted As A Potential Running Mate For Never-Trumper Mitt Romney

Rubio Is Known Have Been Vetted As A Potential Running Mate For Mitt Romney In 2012 Prior To The Selection Of Paul Ryan; At The Time, Romney's Team Found Nothing Disqualifying Regarding Rubio. "A longtime top aide to Mitt Romney is pushing back against charges from the Jeb Bush campaign that Romney came across unflattering information about Marco Rubio when he was vetted for the VP slot in 2012. On Thursday evening, U.S. News published a 112-page document that the Bush campaign provided to donors at a retreat earlier this month in Houston. The document highlights the campaign's plans to target Rubio, calling him a "risky bet." At one point, the document says that "Those who have looked into Marco's background in the past have been concerned with what they have found." U.S. News, citing an anonymous Bush aide, said the reference was to "concerns Mitt Romney's team unearthed when they vetted Rubio for vice president in 2012." Rubio was among those considered for the VP slot, which ultimately went to now-House Speaker Paul Ryan. Yet, in an email to POLITICO, Beth Myers, a longtime Romney political adviser who in 2012 oversaw his vice presidential search, pushed back on the assertion. "As the senior Romney advisor who handled VP vetting and had access to all the vetting documents, I can say that Senator Rubio 'passed' our vetting and we found nothing that disqualified him from serving as VP," wrote Myers, who counts herself a Bush supporter. "The Bush aide referred to in this article is simply wrong." Spokespersons for Bush did not respond to a request for comment." (*Politico*, 10/29/15)

- **"Mitt Romney Told Reporters Here Tuesday That His Vice Presidential Search Team Is Vetting Sen. Marco Rubio (Fla.), Revealing That One Of The Republican**

Party's Biggest Young Stars Is Under Consideration To Be His Running Mate." "Mitt Romney told reporters here Tuesday that his vice presidential search team is vetting Sen. Marco Rubio (Fla.), revealing that one of the Republican Party's biggest young stars is under consideration to be his running mate. "Marco Rubio is being thoroughly vetted as part of our process," Romney said after gathering a press pool for an unannounced campaign stop in Michigan. Romney's comments came after ABC News reported that his search team had not asked Rubio to complete a questionnaire or submit any personal financial documents. One outside Romney adviser confirmed that report to The Washington Post later Tuesday, though the adviser left open the possibility that Romney officials could thoroughly vet Rubio at a later date. Romney strongly denied the ABC report, which was attributed to two anonymous sources. "I can't imagine who such people are," the presidential candidate told reporters. "But I can tell you this: They know nothing about the vice presidential selection or evaluation process. There are only two people in this country who know who are being vetted and who are not, and that's Beth Myers and myself. And I know Beth well. She doesn't talk to anybody. The story was entirely false.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/19/12)

Rubio Is Known To Have Been Boosted By Moderate GOP Mega Donor Paul Singer

Rubio Is Known To Have Been Boosted By Moderate GOP Mega Donor Paul Singer. "On June 14, another embarrassing lapse tainted Rubio's credentials as a financial reformer. Deutsche Bank filed a suit in Leon County to foreclose on a house he owned just outside Tallahassee with David Rivera — his loyal lieutenant in the House and now a candidate for U.S. Congress. The pair had missed five months of payments on the home, which they had bought for $135,000 in 2005. The foreclosure was dropped a week later when Rubio and Rivera repaid $9,525 to the bank. Rubio says they had stopped paying over a dispute in interest rates. For the past month, Rubio has traveled the state every week trying to reharness the energy that helped him topple Crist. He has turned again to the same themes that define his political life: escape from Cuba and belief in small government. And he has raised even more money. He recently attended a massive New York fundraiser hosted by hedge fund manager Paul Singer the same night Congress passed new financial reforms. Plus he pulled in more than $4.5 million in the last quarter, four times Meek's fundraising." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Rubio Has Previously Been Supported By The Organization 'Club For Growth' – An Organization That Has Antagonized Trump At Times

Rubio Was Significantly Boosted By The Club For Growth During His 2010 U.S. Senate Campaign. "In his bid to unseat Crist, Rubio has also raised more than $11 million and counting. About $100,000 of that cash has come from political action committees, including the anti-tax Club for Growth, his largest individual donor. Then there are the big businesses he helped as speaker: Florida Crystals, State Farm, and a host of developers. With the money and national exposure, Rubio's poll numbers soared throughout early 2010. By April, he'd sunk Crist into an almost 30-point hole among primary voters. On April 29, at a hastily called news conference in a St. Petersburg park, the governor abandoned the Republican Party." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **VIDEO: In 2009, The Club For Growth Underscored Its Endorsement And Support For Rubio.** (YouTube, 11/23/09)



(YouTube, 11/23/09)

In 2015, Club For Growth President David McIntosh Touted Rubio As A "Real Deal" Presidential Candidate And Noted Rubio "Has A Consistent Record Of Supporting Policies Like Free Trade And Tort Reform, And He Supports Common Sense Regulatory Reforms." "The first major test for the 2016 Republican presidential candidates is Thursday. The 2016 GOP field is the most pro-growth in recent history. There are a number of qualified candidates who have put forth ideas and a vision for restoring the economic growth and freedom our country so desperately needs after suffering for eight long and bleak years under Barack Obama's feckless leadership. These ideas include reducing the size of government, cutting taxes, repealing and replacing Obamacare, free market reforms, and moving the country forward with free trade. Here is our assessment of the major candidates going into the Fox debate. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul: The Gold Standard U.S. Sens. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul are "the real deal" candidates, the gold standard of the race. Sen. Cruz particularly excels when it comes to stopping job-crippling regulations and promoting pro-growth energy exploration. He's also shown extraordinary determination in the fight against Obamacare. Sen. Rubio has drafted a pro-growth tax cut and reform plan that would fundamentally reform the tax code and the entitlement state. He also has a consistent record of supporting policies like free trade and tort reform, and he supports common sense regulatory reforms." (David McIntosh, Op-Ed, *USA Today*, 8/5/15)

- **Of Note, In The Same Piece, McIntosh Labeled Trump As Among The Candidates He Considered "Utter Disasters."** "Chris Christie, John Kasich, Mike Huckabee and Donald Trump: Utter Disasters New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's support for free markets seems to go out the window when it comes to big business. His record on spending is

mediocre, and some of his stances on entitlements, such as his support for Obamacare's Medicaid expansion, will create economic headaches for his state in the years to come. Like Christie, Ohio Gov. John Kasich's decision to expand Medicaid was a costly mistake, as Medicaid enrollment in Ohio has far outpaced Kasich's projections and more than doubled in cost. Kasich has also presided over significant increases in state spending. Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee has yet to take responsibility for the exorbitant rise in taxes and government spending that he championed as governor and that gave him the "Tax-Hike Mike" moniker. Donald Trump has tapped into a well of unchanneled frustration in America, but he's not a serious candidate. His past positions, including support for tax increases and universal healthcare, actually make him a more suitable candidate in the Democratic primary or maybe even as Hillary Clinton's running mate. The biggest issue in the election is growing America's economy so our future is brighter than our present or recent past. The Fox debate should clarify for voters which candidates will best ensure that future." (David McIntosh, Op-Ed, *USA Today*, 8/5/15)

IN JANUARY 2021, RUBIO ACKNOWLEDGED JOE BIDEN AS PRESIDENT AND PRAISED HIS CHARACTER

VIDEO: On Inauguration Day, In January 2021, Rubio Acknowledges Biden As "Our New President" And Calls Him A "Man Of Tremendous Empathy"; Rubio Notes That He Prays God Will Bless Biden With Health, Strength, And Wisdom

VIDEO: On Inauguration Day, In January 2021, Rubio Acknowledges Biden As "Our New President" And Calls Him A "Man Of Tremendous Empathy"; Rubio Notes That He Prays God Will Bless Biden With Health, Strength, And Wisdom. (Twitter, 1/20/21)



(Twitter, 1/20/21)

Rubio, In January 2021: "Joe Biden Is Now Our President, A Position Held By Only 44 Other Americans In History. It Is The Single Most Powerful Job In The World, And The Most Serious Challenge He Will Face Is Leading A Bitterly Divided Country"

Rubio, In January 2021: "Joe Biden Is Now Our President, A Position Held By Only 44 Other Americans In History. It Is The Single Most Powerful Job In The World, And The Most Serious Challenge He Will Face Is Leading A Bitterly Divided Country." "Joe Biden is now our president, a position held by only 44 other Americans in history. It is the single most powerful job in the world, and the most serious challenge he will face is leading a bitterly divided country. In his inaugural speech, Biden extended an olive branch to the 74 million Americans who voted for President Trump. This is important, but that alone will not "Make America Normal Again." Tens of millions of Americans don't want to go back to a "normal" that left them feeling forgotten and left behind. They want an America where everyone can find a good job, get married, live in a safe neighborhood, raise a family and retire with dignity. But that is now out of reach for millions in our nation. It was important for President Biden to acknowledge those anxieties today. But addressing them will require serious action. The Green New Deal and tax hikes may be part of a far-left wish list, but they are not a unifying agenda to heal the soul of our nation." (Fox News, 1/20/21)

RUBIO AT TIMES HAS DEFENDED DEMOCRATS

In 2010, Rubio Was Reported By The Miami New Times As Having Pushed Back Against A Voter's Contention That, Regarding The Deepwater Horizon Disaster, The Obama Administration Was "Intentionally Dragging Their Feet On This Disaster For Its Own Political Agenda"

In 2010, Rubio Was Reported By The *Miami New Times* As Having Pushed Back Against A Voter's Contention That, Regarding The Deepwater Horizon Disaster, The Obama Administration Was "Intentionally Dragging Their Feet On This Disaster For Its Own Political Agenda." "On a recent summer day, about 100 Rubio supporters crowd into a chic Tampa deli with sharply angled wine racks along exposed brick walls. They turn their heads toward a denim-clad, middle-aged woman whose eyes narrow suspiciously as she grills Rubio about the Gulf oil spill: "The Obama administration is intentionally dragging their feet on this disaster," she insists loudly, "for its own political agenda." Rubio tugs at his ring finger and shakes his head. "I don't think the president is intentionally prolonging this disaster. I do think there's a lack of competence in how they're addressing it." In the two months since Rubio achieved his greatest political victory — forcing Crist to drop out of the GOP primary to run as an independent — the former speaker has moved rapidly toward the middle on issues such as the oil spill." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

In 2016, "Sen. Marco Rubio Begged His Republican Colleagues Tuesday To Fully Fund President Obama's Nearly $2 Billion Request To Combat The Zika Virus, Saying It Is Really "The Scientists' Request" And That Congress Can Easily Backfill The Money If It Shows The Will"

In 2016, "Sen. Marco Rubio Begged His Republican Colleagues Tuesday To Fully Fund President Obama's Nearly $2 Billion Request To Combat The Zika Virus, Saying It Is Really "The Scientists' Request" And That Congress Can Easily Backfill The Money If It Shows The Will." "Sen. Marco Rubio begged his Republican colleagues Tuesday to fully fund President Obama's nearly $2 billion request to combat the Zika virus, saying it is really "the scientists' request" and that Congress can easily backfill the money if it shows the will. Mr. Rubio, a Florida Republican whose state faces a serious outbreak, has broken with the GOP caucus and supported the $1.9 billion package favored by the White House. The administration wants to treat that money as emergency spending akin to hurricane relief and tack it onto the deficit. Mr. Rubio's willingness to follow that plan puts him at odds with conservative groups who've demanded that any Zika funding be offset by cuts elsewhere in the budget. "We can do that, we should do that, I'm in favor of doing that," he said of finding the cuts. But he said it would be "short-sighted" to wait any longer or "low-ball" the U.S. response to Zika, which is causing birth defects in Latin America. Florida accounts for about one in five of the 500 travel-related cases of Zika recorded in the U.S. so far, and the mosquito-borne virus could swirl on its own once temperatures climb. Mr. Rubio also supports a bipartisan plan to pony up $1.1 billion for the Zika fight, although he argued it is a less attractive approach. "Why are we taking this chance? It makes absolutely no sense," he said. Mr. Rubio's break with fellow Republicans comes just two months after he ran as a conservative candidate for president. The Floridian lobbied to pay for the Zika package down the road, saying $2 billion for an emergency — unlike entitlement spending — is hardly a major driver for the nation's $18 trillion debt, so it shouldn't be hard to find the money. He also urged lawmakers to divorce the administration from the actual funding request. "Fine, it came from the White House," he said. "But it's really the scientists' requests, the doctors' request, the public health sector's request for how to address this issue.'" (*Washington Times*, 5/17/16)

Rubio Has Previously Defended The Rights Of 'Squad Members'

Rubio: "I Disagree 100% With Reps. Tlaib & Omar On #Israel & Am The Author Of The #Antibds Bill We Passed In The Senate But Denying Them Entry Into #Israel Is A Mistake. Being Blocked Is What They Really Hoped For All Along In Order To Bolster Their Attacks Against The Jewish State." (Twitter, 8/15/19)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
I disagree 100% with Reps. Tlaib & Omar on #Israel & am the author of the #AntiBDS bill we passed in the Senate
But denying them entry into #Israel is a mistake.
Being blocked is what they really hoped for all along in order to bolster their attacks against the Jewish state.
2:05 PM · Aug 15, 2019

(Twitter, 8/15/19)

As Speaker Of The Florida House, Rubio Was Known To Boost Florida State Democratic Legislators

While Serving As Speaker, "In A Surprising Departure From House Protocol, [Rubio] Granted Requests By Gelber (The Democratic Leader) To Make His Own Appointments To Committees As Well As To Control His Caucus's Offices And Parking Spaces – The Cudgels Of Legislative Power." "FOR EIGHT YEARS, Jeb Bush who left office in January 2007, as Rubio was beginning his speakership had taken a domineering approach to managing affairs in Tallahassee. Rubio's style of leading turned out to be quite different. In a surprising departure from House protocol, he granted requests by Gelber (the Democratic leader) to make his own appointments to committees as well as to control his caucus's offices and parking spaces the cudgels of legislative power. Most important, Gelber says, he honored Democrats' right to voice opposition: "I would say, 'I have an amendment that we're going to speak on and we're going to spend an hour calling you guys rat bastards,' and he would say, 'Do you think you could do it in 30 minutes?'" While Rubio was not above yanking a dissident member's parking space or reassigning someone to a closet-sized office, retribution was not routine. Unlike some of his predecessors, he was not cloistered in the speaker's office. He made an effort to eat with members in the cafeteria and talk to them about their bills as well as their families. "That's the first thing-when you can demonstrate a real interest in people and empower them to be successful," Baxley told me. "This is an atmosphere where it's easy to get caught in a culture that says, 'It's all about me.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

RUBIO'S UNDERMINING OF THE 'AMERICA FIRST' AGENDA (POLICY)

RUBIO INITIALLY SUPPORTED 'FREE TRADE' BEFORE FLIP-FLOPPING

VIDEO: In 2011, Rubio Noted "I Think One Of The Great Things That Will Help Us Grow Our Economy In The Years To Come Is Further Free Trade"; Rubio Further Noted His Support For Free Trade Agreements With South Korea, Panama, And Colombia

VIDEO: In 2011, Rubio Noted "I Think One Of The Great Things That Will Help Us Grow Our Economy In The Years To Come Is Further Free Trade"; Rubio Further Noted His Support For Free Trade Agreements With South Korea, Panama, And Colombia. "Mr. Rubio: Thank you Mr. President and members. We've had this important conversation this week about trade policy in the United States. It's a very important one. Clearly, I think one of the great things that will help us grow our economy in the years to come is further free trade. We have these pending free trade agreements, which mostly everyone I run into says they're in favor of, including the President. The one with South Korea, the one with Panama, the one with Colombia, there's been a prerequisite put in place by those in charge here in this chamber and that is that we deal with the TAA issues. And so that's why we're on this issue today. They have clearly been linked, the issue of free trade and the issue of this TAA law, so that's why we're on that today. And on that line, let me talk a little bit about the free trade agreements for a minute because we're continuing to wait for them to be sent down to us. These agreements would increase U.S. exports by billions of dollars and create jobs here in the United States and about, the numbers that are out there, exports are about $12 billion annually, for example. Adding about $14 billion to the U.S. economy. These are real numbers. The South Korea agreement alone, for example, is estimated could add as many as 70,000 American jobs. As I said earlier, these benefits are not being realized because the President has not yet submitted these for approval to this body or to the Congress. And so the debate we're having today is really not a new one. In fact, the Trade Adjustment Agreement, or TAA, has been a policy of the United States, for better or for worse, since the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. Interestingly, this policy was first actually proposed by Senator John F. Kennedy. When he introduced it and aptly titled it the Trade Adjustment Act. In fact, the initial goal was to respond to perceived effects of trade policies. In essence, you enter into a trade policy, like a free trade agreement, with another country. American workers may lose their job in the short term, but you create a fund to help them transition to what you hope will be the new jobs being created by free trade. As you create this new relationship with new countries and new economies, the effect of it, and quite frankly it has been the effect, is that while some jobs may be lost those jobs are replaced with new opportunities and new jobs. And in the process of that transition, between the job you once had and the job you hope to have here in the future as a product of free trade, you create this fund to help workers adjust from point a to point b. That was the purpose of it and has been the purpose of it." (YouTube, 9/22/11)



(YouTube, 9/22/11)

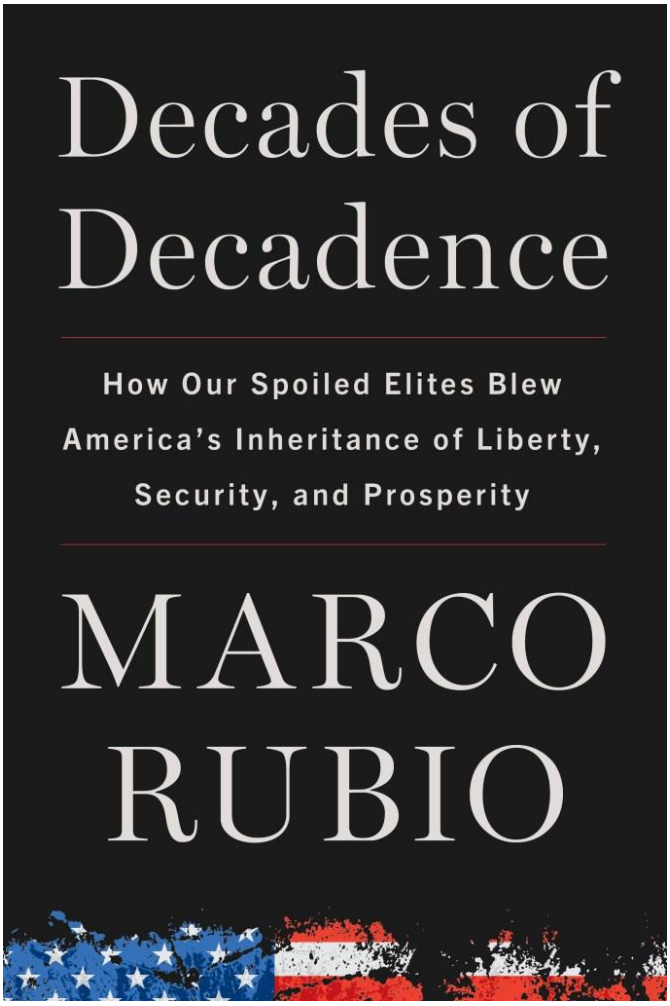
In 2015, Club For Growth President David McIntosh Noted Rubio "Has A Consistent Record Of Supporting Policies Like Free Trade..."

In 2015, Club For Growth President David McIntosh Noted Rubio "Has A Consistent Record Of Supporting Policies Like Free Trade..." "The first major test for the 2016 Republican presidential candidates is Thursday. The 2016 GOP field is the most pro-growth in recent history. There are a number of qualified candidates who have put forth ideas and a vision for restoring the economic growth and freedom our country so desperately needs after suffering for eight long and bleak years under Barack Obama's feckless leadership. These ideas include reducing the size of government, cutting taxes, repealing and replacing Obamacare, free market reforms, and moving the country forward with free trade. Here is our assessment of the major candidates going into the Fox debate. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul: The Gold Standard U.S. Sens. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul are "the real deal" candidates, the gold standard of the race. Sen. Cruz particularly excels when it comes to stopping job-crippling regulations and promoting pro-growth energy exploration. He's also shown extraordinary determination in the fight against Obamacare. Sen. Rubio has drafted a pro-growth tax cut and reform plan that would fundamentally reform the tax code and the entitlement state. He also has a consistent record of supporting policies like free trade and tort reform, and he supports common sense regulatory reforms." (David McIntosh, Op-Ed, *USA Today*, 8/5/15)

Recently, In His 2023 Book 'Decades Of Decadence,' Rubio Now Repudiates And Condemns The Globalist Free Trade Regime He Once Supported

Recently, In His 2023 Book 'Decades Of Decadence,' Rubio Now Repudiates And Condemns The Globalist Free Trade Regime He Once Supported. "For decades now, since our elites began to believe that global market integration was an inherent good that should take

precedence over all else — particularly patriotism, national unity, and the welfare of American workers — this country has prioritized the importation of cheap labor. The 1990s were dominated by stories of local factories shutting down in Pennsylvania and Ohio, only to reopen weeks later in Mexico or China. Offshoring American jobs made headlines and prompted outcry from politicians, but otherwise continued apace even as our communities were hollowed out. But not every business could be exported, which meant Wall Street simply figured out how to import cheap labor, much of it coming from illegal immigrants. This was a slower, more subtle process. Sure, some politicians made a big deal about "jobs Americans wouldn't do," but otherwise the only outcry came from workers who found their wages stalled, benefits cut, and hours slashed until they could be replaced by someone willing to work more hours for less. More often than not, it is about jobs Wall Street doesn't want Americans to do because hiring Americans would require higher wages and better working conditions. To them, it is better to import cheap labor and buy off Americans with cash welfare programs provided by the government. What's more, many sought to rationalize the entire process in glowing, nonexploitative terms. They were convinced that the end of history made us all "citizens of the world." Why should jobs in America be reserved for Americans if borders don't matter? In a global economy, the source of the labor doesn't matter, so long as the job gets done. That policy consensus accelerated the erosion of national identity and patriotism." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *New York Post*, 6/10/13; Excerpt From 'Decades Of Decadence')


Decades of Decadence
How Our Spoiled Elites Blew America's Inheritance of Liberty, Security, and Prosperity
MARCO RUBIO

(Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *New York Post*, 6/10/13; Excerpt From 'Decades Of Decadence')

RUBIO INITIALLY SUPPORTED THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP) BEFORE FLIP-FLOPPING

In 2015, Rubio Strongly Backed The TPP Declaring It "Will Further Our Strategic Goals In Asia And Increase Prosperity At Home. It Will Advance Economic Liberty And Unleash Free-Market Forces In The World's Most Dynamic Region"

In 2015, Rubio Strongly Backed The TPP Declaring It "Will Further Our Strategic Goals In Asia And Increase Prosperity At Home. It Will Advance Economic Liberty And Unleash Free-Market Forces In The World's Most Dynamic Region." "Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's visit to the United States this week highlights the potential of a new age of peace and prosperity in Asia. Under his leadership, Japan is revising its defense policies to become a more robust contributor to security in East Asia, working with partners to ensure that territorial disputes are resolved through the rule of law, and attempting to finalize the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact. These goals are shared by the United States and should have our full support. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. From a starting point of bitter enemies dealing with the fallout from millions of deaths and immense destruction, the

modern U.S.-Japan relationship has blossomed into one of America's strongest alliances in the world. Our alliance with Japan is key to a 21st-century Asia free and at peace. There are three pillars to an Asia policy for a new American century. The first is ensuring that we maintain U.S. and allied defense capabilities that can resist the coercion or domination of Asia by an increasingly assertive and belligerent China. The second is an Asian-Pacific economy governed by free-market principles. And the third is the settling of disputes based on the rule of law, not usurpation of land, military expansionism and conflict. The U.S.-Japan alliance is at the center of all three pillars. On defense, with revised U.S.-Japan defense guidelines and Prime Minister Abe's efforts to allow Japanese forces to participate in "collective self-defense" (coming to the aid of U.S. forces under fire, for example), Japan will be a more equal partner in our alliance. U.S and Japanese forces will work more closely together to build a ballistic-missile-defense system to protect us from threats posed by North Korea's rogue regime and other bad actors. We will also work together to closely monitor and respond to Chinese aggression in the South China Sea, where busy shipping lanes are vital to our security and prosperity. The U.S. will further work with Japan to help our partners in Southeast Asia defend their territorial waters. As Prime Minister Abe has said, "Japan will offer its utmost support for the efforts of the countries of Asean"—the Association of Southeast Asian Nations—"as they work to ensure the security of the seas and the skies, and thoroughly maintain freedom of navigation and freedom of over flight." Japan understands the critical role that a strong defense plays in supporting the freedom of nations to conduct peaceful commerce and further their economic growth. To this end, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), discussed between President Obama and Prime Minister Abe this week, will further our strategic goals in Asia and increase prosperity at home. It will advance economic liberty and unleash free-market forces in the world's most dynamic region. It will create the opportunity for emerging economies to become the next "tigers" of Asia and enhance linkages between nations in the Western Hemisphere and East Asia." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 4/29/15)

Rubio: "We Must Rebuild Our Own Military Capabilities, Conclude And Pass TPP, And Renew Our Support For Freedom And The Rule Of Law In Asia"

Rubio: "We Must Rebuild Our Own Military Capabilities, Conclude And Pass TPP, And Renew Our Support For Freedom And The Rule Of Law In Asia." "We are now faced with consequential decisions about the future of Asia and the postwar free-market order that has sustained peace and prosperity in the region. But we also have significant opportunities. To take advantage of them, we must rebuild our own military capabilities, conclude and pass TPP, and renew our support for freedom and the rule of law in Asia. Too often over the past six years, U.S. leaders have spoken of their attention to Asia but failed to back up the rhetoric with action." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 4/29/15)

"While Mr. Rubio Did Not Vote On The Agreement, He Indicated After It Was Announced That He Was Inclined To Vote For It. He Has Said That The United States Risks Locking Itself Out Of Global Trade If It Is Not More Open"

"While Mr. Rubio Did Not Vote On The Agreement, He Indicated After It Was Announced That He Was Inclined To Vote For It. He Has Said That The United States Risks Locking Itself Out Of Global Trade If It Is Not More Open." (*The New York Times*, 2016)

Rubio, In 2015: "As President, I Would Respond Not Through Aggressive Retaliation, Which Would Hurt The U.S. As Much As China, But By Greater Commitment And Firmer Insistence On Free Markets And Free Trade. This Means Immediately Moving Forward With The Trans-Pacific Partnership And Other Trade Agreements"

Rubio, In 2015: "As President, I Would Respond Not Through Aggressive Retaliation, Which Would Hurt The U.S. As Much As China, But By Greater Commitment And Firmer Insistence On Free Markets And Free Trade. This Means Immediately Moving Forward With The Trans-Pacific Partnership And Other Trade Agreements." "My second goal is protecting the U.S. economy. For years, China has subsidized exports, devalued its currency, restricted imports and stolen technology on a massive scale. As president, I would respond not through aggressive retaliation, which would hurt the U.S. as much as China, but by greater commitment and firmer insistence on free markets and free trade. This means immediately moving forward with the Trans-Pacific Partnership and other trade agreements. I will also recognize that in the 21st century, national and economic security both depend on cybersecurity. No longer will China hack U.S. corporate or government servers with ease and without consequence." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/27/15)

By September 2016, Rubio Backed Off His Explicit Support For TPP But Noted That He Would Still "Love To Have A Free Trade Agreement With The Asia-Pacific Region"

By September 2016, Rubio Backed Off His Explicit Support For TPP But Noted That He Would Still "Love To Have A Free Trade Agreement With The Asia-Pacific Region." "Of the Republicans who are running in the most closely watched Senate races this cycle, just two have publicly embraced the controversial trade deal: John McCain of Arizona — who warned that the United States' future in Asia hinges on the TPP — and Mark Kirk of Illinois. One other Republican, Chuck Grassley of Iowa, is favorable toward TPP's agriculture provisions but won't weigh in on the other parts. Back in April 2015, Rubio wrote an op-ed in t T he Wall Street Journal and urged passage of TPP, which would "further our strategic goals in Asia and increase prosperity at home." In an interview with POLITICO this week, Rubio said he is still evaluating the trade deal but noted that he was "disappointed" with results of a report from the International Trade Commission that gauged the TPP's economic impact. Pressed on whether his concerns about the TPP constitute a reversal, Rubio responded, "How can it be? You can't endorse a deal that isn't written yet." "The TPP as a concept is something I support. I'd love to have a free trade agreement with the Asia-Pacific region. But it has to be the right deal," Rubio said. "Just like I support home ownership, but it has to be under the right terms.'" (*Politico*, 9/22/16)

RUBIO SUPPORTED TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY DURING THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

Rubio, In 2015: "Concluding TPP Will Require The Passage Of Trade Promotion Authority By The Congress"

Rubio, In 2015: "Concluding TPP Will Require The Passage Of Trade Promotion Authority By The Congress." "Concluding TPP will require the passage of Trade Promotion Authority by the Congress. Our foreign trading partners like Japan need to have confidence that American presidents can deliver on free trade. Once we pass Trade Promotion Authority we can finish negotiating a pact that will help build a network of Pacific economies based on competition, the rule of law and free markets." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 4/29/15)

In May 2015, Rubio Noted It Was "More Important Than Ever That Congress Give The President Trade Promotion Authority So That He Can Finalize The Trans-Pacific Partnership And The Trans-Atlantic Trade And Investment Partnership"

In May 2015, Rubio Noted It Was "More Important Than Ever That Congress Give The President Trade Promotion Authority So That He Can Finalize The Trans-Pacific Partnership And The Trans-Atlantic Trade And Investment Partnership." "Rubio has been hedging for months, saying in January that he would wait for a May report from the International Trade Commission. Then he bought more time. His new comments are the most clear sign yet of a shift. TPP became a political issue in the presidential primary, bashed by Trump and Democrat Bernie Sanders, who forced Hillary Clinton to reverse her support. Rubio's Democratic U.S. Senate rival, Patrick Murphy, announced his opposition last October. Breitbart News in June 2015 accused Rubio of being the "deciding vote" for TPP fast-track authority "without even reading" the deal. Rubio's office countered that he had. Indeed, Rubio has been nothing but supportive, saying during a May 2015 speech at the Council on Foreign Relations — his first foreign policy address as a presidential candidate — that it was "more important than ever that Congress give the president trade promotion authority so that he can finalize the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership." A month before, Rubio praised the deal in a piece for the Wall Street Journal as a way to "further our strategic goals in Asia and increase prosperity at home. … It will create the opportunity for emerging economies to become the next 'tigers' of Asia and enhance linkages between nations in the Western Hemisphere and East Asia.'" (*Tampa Bay Times*, 8/26/16)

In June 2015, Breitbart Noted That Rubio Cast The Deciding Vote In Favor Of TPA – Allowing For Fast-Tracking Of Free Trade Deals Such As TPP

In June 2015, Breitbart Noted That Rubio Cast The Deciding Vote In Favor Of TPA – Allowing For Fast-Tracking Of Free Trade Deals Such As TPP. "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) cast the deciding vote for Obamatrade on Tuesday as it squeeked through the U.S. Senate 60-37, and his Senate office is still outright refusing to answer whether he even knew what he was voting on. Rubio, a Republican presidential candidate, was the deciding vote necessary for the U.S. Senate to clear the final 60-vote threshold and eventually, later this week, send to President

Barack Obama's desk the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) bill that would fast-track at least three highly secretive trade deals that Obama has been negotiating for years. TPA will, now that it's going to pass, effectively ensure the congressional approval of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) and Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP). The text of the TiSA and T-TIP agreements is currently entirely secretive, even to lawmakers on Capitol Hill and their staffs, though WikiLeaks did uncover several TiSA documents that leaked and prove the deal would surrender congressional power over U.S. immigration policy to the executive branch and perhaps to a newly created transnational entity. The TPP text for the Pacific Rim trade deal that Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL) notes would give the Sultan of Brunei—who has implemented Sharia Law in his nation and banned Christmas, literally—an "equal vote to that of the United States," on the other hand, is available for members of Congress to read. The only catch is they have to go to a secret room inside the Capitol basement for classified readings to read it in person, they can't take notes, and only their staffers with enough high enough security clearances can go with them to read it—and their staff can't go without them. Before the Senate voted on TPA to fast track these deals the first time back in May, Breitbart News asked every Senate Republican if they read the text of the TPP before voting to fast-track it. Only a handful said they did. Sens. Rand Paul (R-KY), Ted Cruz (R-TX), Jeff Sessions (R-AL), James Lankford (R-OK) and Mike Lee (R-UT) went to go read it. Rubio, on the other hand, was one of many who has consistently and repeatedly refused to answer whether he read the deal text. His office refuse to answer yet again on Tuesday whether he went to go read it before the first time he voted for TPA or before the second time he did—on Tuesday's cloture vote—and that means he's again choosing to give the public impression he did not read the text of the deal before he voted to fast track it through Congress. This could have significant implications for Rubio on the campaign trail as he seeks the Republican nomination for the presidency as activists in early states are furious with his decision to support Obamatrade when it's clear he doesn't know what he's talking about. New Hampshire conservative and Merrimack Councilman Bill Boyd, who's endorsed Paul for president, told Breitbart News while on a recent reporting trip to New Hampshire that he's upset that Rubio didn't read the deal before he voted to fast-track it." (Breitbart, 6/23/15)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED TRADE WITH CHINA

As Late As 2015, Rubio Continued To Laud Trading Opportunities With China Noting "Despite The Challenges China Poses To The U.S., We Must Never Forget That The Opportunities Are Even Greater. The Ability To Trade, Travel And Innovate Through Cooperation And Competition Is Greater Than It Has Ever Been"

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side of the Chinese people rather than their autocratic rulers. Americans must elect a president willing to lead with strength and by example. A strong America—militarily, economically and morally—is the only path to lasting peace and partnership between the U.S. and China." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/27/15)

Rubio: "China Presents Both Opportunities And Challenges. Trade With Its Growing Middle Class Has Opened American Businesses To Hundreds Of Millions Of New Customers"

Rubio: "China Presents Both Opportunities And Challenges. Trade With Its Growing Middle Class Has Opened American Businesses To Hundreds Of Millions Of New Customers." "Over the past week, we have been dealt a painful reminder of just how important U.S. policy toward China is in the 21st century. On Monday, due largely to a crash in China's stock market, U.S. markets suffered their worst day in four years. Insecurity and anxiety about the future—already high for American families—climbed even higher. It was a jarring illustration of how globalization is changing the U.S. economy. China presents both opportunities and challenges. Trade with its growing middle class has opened American businesses to hundreds of millions of new customers. But Beijing's protectionist economic and trade policies increasingly endanger America's financial well-being. China is also a rising threat to U.S. national security. Earlier this year, it was behind the largest cyberattack ever carried out against the United States." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/27/15)

In A January 2016 GOP Primary Debate, Rubio Criticized Trump's Proposal To Impose Tariffs On China Arguing The True Cost Of The Tariff Would Be Shouldered By American Consumers

In A January 2016 GOP Primary Debate, Rubio Criticized Trump's Proposal To Impose Tariffs On China Arguing The True Cost Of The Tariff Would Be Shouldered By American Consumers. "RUBIO: But on this point, if I may add something on this point. We are all frustrated with what China is doing. I think we need to be very careful with tariffs, and here's why. China doesn't pay the tariff, the buyer pays the tariff. If you send a tie or a shirt made in China into the United States and an American goes to buy it at the store and there's a tariff on it, it gets passed on in the price to price to the consumer. So I think the better approach, the best thing we can do to protect ourselves against China economically is to make our economy stronger, which means reversing course from all the damage Barack Obama is doing to this economy. It begins with tax reform. Let's not have the most expensive business tax rate in the world. Let's allow companies to immediately expense." (*The New York Times*, 1/15/16)

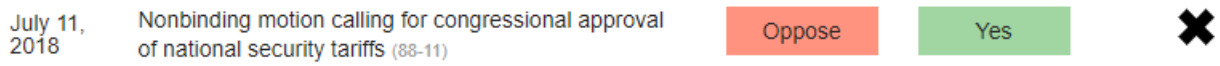
RUBIO SUPPORTED LEGISLATION THAT UNDERMINED THE TRUMP'S ADMINISTRATION TO ISSUE TARIFFS

In 2018, Rubio Supported A Resolution That Which Called For Congressional Approval Of National Security Tariffs

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration

In 2018, Rubio Voted Yea On HR 5895, Which Called For Congressional Approval Of National Security Tariffs. (HR 5895, Passed (88 - 11), United States Senate, 7/11/18, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)



("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

In 2018, Rubio Voted In A Manner Reaffirming The New For Congressional Approval Of Section 232 Determinations

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration

In July 2018, Rubio Voted Yea On A Motion To Reaffirm The Need For Congressional Approval Of Section 232 Determinations. (Rubio Supported The Motion, Motion Supported (88-11) Congressional Journal, 7/11/18)

Mr. TOOMEY. Madam President, if there is any time remaining, let me just stress that this vote is a vote to move in the direction of restoring to Congress our constitutional authority and, ultimately, if we do that right, to revisiting the misuse of the section 232 provisions of our trade law, which is applying inappropriate tariffs on steel and aluminum from our allies and close friends.

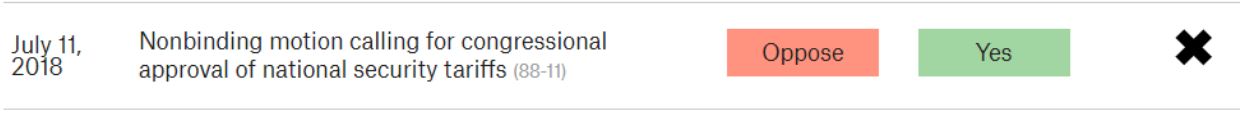
I urge my colleagues to vote yes.

(Congressional Journal, 7/11/18)

Roberts
Rounds
Rubio
Sanders
Sasse

(Congressional Journal, 7/11/18)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)



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RUBIO CONTROVERSIALLY SUPPORTED AN AMNESTY/PATHWAY TO CITIZENSHIP IMMIGRATION BILL BEFORE FLIP-FLOPPING

"Rubio Has Had A Hesitant, Equivocating Relationship With Immigration Reform—Reflecting Both The Welcome Arms That Met His Immigrant Family And The Nativist Right-Wing Impulses Of His Own Party"

"Rubio Has Had A Hesitant, Equivocating Relationship With Immigration Reform—Reflecting Both The Welcome Arms That Met His Immigrant Family And The Nativist Right-Wing Impulses Of His Own Party." "Rubio's policy stances on immigration remain at odds with the views of the overwhelming majority of Hispanics. From the start, Rubio has had a hesitant, equivocating relationship with immigration reform—reflecting both the welcome arms that met his immigrant family and the nativist right-wing impulses of his own party. In the Florida House, he backed a bill with some elements of the DREAM Act. He also made sure as speaker that an array of draconian anti-immigrant proposals never saw the light of day for a vote." (*Politico*, 11/2015)

"Given His Previous Wobbles On Immigration, There's A Broad Consensus That Political Calculations Will Help Drive Rubio's Position On Reform But No Consensus About Where"

"Given His Previous Wobbles On Immigration, There's A Broad Consensus That Political Calculations Will Help Drive Rubio's Position On Reform But No Consensus About Where." "Given his previous wobbles on immigration, there's a broad consensus that political calculations will help drive Rubio's position on reform but no consensus about where. He has continued to toe the Tea Party line on everything else—opposing the fiscal-cliff deal, refusing to raise the debt ceiling, describing Obamacare as economic suicide—so perhaps immigration gives him a chance to prove he can work across the aisle, get something big done and help save his party. But he could also cement his status as a conservative stalwart by rejecting a deal, especially if he manages to dump the blame on Obama." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Rubio Was Known To Be Relatively Moderate On Illegal Immigration Matters As A State Legislator But Flip-Flopped To Become A Hardliner During The 2010 Senate Campaign Including Opposing The Dream Act

Rubio Was Known To Be Relatively Moderate On Illegal Immigration Matters As A State Legislator But Flip-Flopped To Become A Hardliner During The 2010 Senate Campaign Including Opposing The Dream Act. "Rubio's journey on the issue has been complicated too. As a state legislator from the overwhelmingly Hispanic community of West Miami, he supported legislation that would allow undocumented students to qualify for in-state tuition. After being selected as house speaker in 2005, he scuttled several Republican efforts to crack down on undocumented immigrants. The obscure book he published laying out his agenda, 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future, included three ideas for preventing identity theft and zero about immigration. But when he announced his underdog campaign for the Senate in 2010, Rubio became a hard-liner. He attacked then governor Charlie Crist's support for reform as Obama-friendly liberal amnesty and opposed the Dream Act, which would have given legal status to those sympathetic immigrants brought here as kids. He started out 30 points behind, with the GOP establishment lined up behind the moderate Crist. While immigration wasn't the big issue in the primary—Crist had embraced the Obama stimulus and even literally embraced Obama at a stimulus rally—it helped convince the party's base of older, exurban Tea Partyers that the hip-hop-loving Cuban American was one of them. Crist was forced to quit the party to run as an independent. Rubio still buried him in the GOP midterm landslide and captured more than half the Hispanic vote." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

- **During His 2010 U.S. Senate Campaign, Rubio Was Outspoken On His Opposition To Ever Supporting Amnesty For Illegal Immigrants.** "Immigration reform was a hot topic in the 2010 Florida Senate race when Rubio ran against Charlie Crist, who ultimately ran as an independent, and Democrat Kendrick Meek. The conservative Shark Tank blogger, Javier Manjarres, asked Rubio in 2009: "Are you pro-amnesty for illegal immigration?" "No, no. Never have been. In fact, I'm strongly against amnesty for a number of different reasons. The first is, I always use the example of the speed limit. If you say the speed limit is 70, but you don't ticket people until they reach 80, well then the speed limit is really 80, it's not 70. Amnesty is the same thing. The most important thing we need to do is enforce our existing laws. We have existing immigration laws that are not being adequately enforced. Nothing will make it harder to enforce your existing laws if you reward people who broke them." Rubio also said: "I will never support – never have and never will support – any effort to grant blanket, legalization, amnesty to folks who have entered or stayed in this country illegally." In October 2009, Rubio said in an interview on WSRE in Pensacola: "You cannot grant amnesty. If you grant amnesty, you will send a message that all you have to do is come into America illegally, stay here long enough, and we will let you stay. No. 2, you will destroy any hopes you have of having a legal immigration system that works. If the American people see us grant amnesty, they will never again believe in legal immigration, they will never again support it. And that's wrong for our country, bad for our future." "In fact in '86 when Reagan created an amnesty program, about 3 million people were granted amnesty. The result was that you had a bunch of people standing in line to enter legally who all claimed to be illegal because it was easier to get through the amnesty program. So we can't have

amnesty. "And I think if you have a guest worker program in place that functions, the illegal folks that are here now will go back home through attrition." In a Senate debate on Univision in September 2010, Rubio spoke against the DREAM Act, which Senate Democrats planned to debate the following week. Dreamers are young people brought to the United States illegally as children. "What they're offering now is a bill that would in essence grant amnesty to 2 million people," Rubio said. "It's a cynical way to play politics with the lives of real people . . . This is what always happens with Hispanic voters in this country, they manipulate them come election time." (The DREAM Act didn't pass. In 2012, President Barack Obama announced Deferred Status for Childhood Arrivals to give temporary status, without a path to citizenship.)" (Politifact, 1/29/16)

However, "In 2012, Rubio Edged Back Toward Compassion, Proposing A Scaled-Back Dream Act"

However, "In 2012, Rubio Edged Back Toward Compassion, Proposing A Scaled-Back Dream Act." "In 2012, Rubio edged back toward compassion, proposing a scaled-back Dream Act. But before he could introduce a bill, the Obama Administration stole his thunder by unilaterally granting temporary legal status to the so-called Dreamers. That helped revive enthusiasm for Obama among Hispanics annoyed by the Administration's record number of deportations. Romney ended up with a meager 27% of the Hispanic vote; had he matched Bush's 40% share, he might be President today. His thrashing persuaded many Republican elites that as long as they're perceived as unsympathetic obstacles to fixing a dysfunctional immigration system, the fastest-growing sector of the electorate won't listen to anything they say." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

"Rubio Co-Authored The Gang Of Eight Bill In 2013 That Included A Pathway To Citizenship"

"Rubio Co-Authored The Gang Of Eight Bill In 2013 That Included A Pathway To Citizenship." "While a senator, Rubio co-authored the Gang of Eight bill in 2013 that included a pathway to citizenship. Ahead of the release of the bill, Rubio said that the proposal "is not amnesty." Rubio argued that the legislation outlining a 13-year pathway to legal status and eventually citizenship is not amnesty. He was right that the bill does not offer blanket legal residency to unauthorized immigrants. The bill mandated fines, background checks and waiting periods, and it was tougher than its 1986 predecessor. But it also offered a measure of clemency to those immigrants, who would not be required to return to their home countries. We rated his statement that the proposal "is not amnesty" Half True. In April 2013, Rubio went on Meet the Press to defend the bill. Host David Gregory asked Rubio about his past and current positions on amnesty: Gregory: "Three years ago in a debate you were clear on this. You said, 'To earn a pathway to citizenship, you have to leave this country if you are here illegally -- go back home. And then you could come back in.' You said an earned pathway was amnesty. Yet you've changed your mind here -- why?" Rubio: "Well, first of all, what I said throughout my campaign was that I was against a blanket amnesty, and this is not blanket amnesty. On the contrary, this is not blanket anything. And, secondly, it's not amnesty because you pay serious consequences for having violated the law. "Third, we need to understand the existing law. The existing law does not prohibit someone -- the law today does not prohibit someone who violated the immigration

laws from getting a green card. It simply says you have to leave the United States, and you have to wait 10 years." He then recapped the provisions of the bill that include the waiting period. The bill never reached a vote in the House and died. Rubio now favors a piecemeal approach rather than one comprehensive bill." (Politifact, 1/29/16)

2013: Rubio "Has Endorsed A Path To Citizenship That He Once Derided As 'Code For Amnesty,' Risking A Backlash From Many Loyal Supporters Who See Los Pobrecitos As Freeloaders"

Rubio Crafted The 2013 Senate Immigration Bill And Was The "Chief Spokesman" For The Bill

2013: Rubio "Has Endorsed A Path To Citizenship That He Once Derided As 'Code For Amnesty,' Risking A Backlash From Many Loyal Supporters Who See Los Pobrecitos As Freeloaders." "So he's navigating a borderland of his own. He has endorsed a path to citizenship that he once derided as "code for amnesty," risking a backlash from many loyal supporters who see los pobrecitos as freeloaders. But he has also pushed to make that path more arduous, demanding much tougher enforcement first, insisting he won't get into a who-can-be-nicest bidding war with Obama and pledging to walk away from reform if the final legislation doesn't reflect conservative principles. In an hour-long Feb. 1 interview with TIME, he emphasized that the undocumented have no right to stay in the U.S., vowed to oppose any bill that rewards them for breaking the law and defended the motives of hard-line "shamnesty" critics who say illegal immigrants are taking taxpayers for a ride. "Someone's violated the law, and they're receiving taxpayer benefits? That's a legitimate reason to be upset," Rubio says." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

- **Rubio Crafted The 2013 Senate Immigration Bill And Was The "Chief Spokesman" For The Bill.** "It's a thin, hard line to walk: between the Republican establishment and the base, between compassion and the rule of law, between family and politics. And Rubio is walking it on an issue no politician has cracked in nearly two decades while testing the support of the grassroots Tea Party conservatives he will need if he seeks the White House in 2016. So far, though, he seems to be succeeding. After helping to craft bipartisan reforms in the Senate, he has served as their chief spokesman on right-wing radio and Fox News, getting remarkably sympathetic hearings from Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity and other talkers whose antiamnesty crusades helped kill similar efforts in the George W. Bush era. Almost all of them have praised his courage—Limbaugh called his work "admirable," like a Pope granting absolution—and the backlash has yet to materialize. "I don't know anyone else who could have broken through the conservative sound barrier on immigration," says American Conservative Union chairman Al Cardenas, a Miami lawyer who gave Rubio his first job as an attorney. "Marco can do left brain, so you get the logic, and he can do right brain, so you feel it in your heart and soul." This is Rubio's first leadership audition, his chance to show Republicans that he's more than a compelling speaker with boyish good looks, that he's not just geographically, demographically and ideologically correct. Immigration, he says, is tricky. Though he has evolved on the issue—flip-flopped, if you prefer—he says he's still not sure he's got it exactly right. The word he uses most is balance. That was his first thought after he played that voice mail from his mother on his iPhone. "I have to balance that humanity with

reality," he says. "We have immigration laws. They have to be followed. But yeah, she reminded me that there's a human element to this as well. As a policymaker, you have to strike a balance." The result will shape the future of the nation and the dreams of millions of immigrants, not to mention the fate of the GOP and the ambitions of Marco Rubio." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Under Rubio's 2013 Immigration Reform Bill, A Pathway To Citizenship Would Be Offered To Over 11 Million Illegal Immigrants Provided That The Border Would Be Secured, An Employment Verification Established, And Strengthening Legal Immigration

Under Rubio's 2013 Immigration Reform Bill, A Pathway To Citizenship Would Be Offered To Over 11 Million Illegal Immigrants Provided That The Border Would Be Secured, An Employment Verification Established, And Strengthening Legal Immigration. "Now he wants to reform the system for all immigrants, and his impeccably nuanced positions have become the core of the Senate plan. He agrees that there is no way to round up and deport 11 million people living in the shadows, but he worries that excessive generosity could end up attracting 11 million more. So he backs a path to citizenship—the current situation, he says, amounts to "de facto amnesty"—but only if the borders are secure and an employment-verification system is in place first, and then only if it isn't quicker or easier than the path for applicants who play by the rules. And while he is willing to grant probationary legal status to undocumented immigrants who register and pay fines, he insists they go to the back of the line for green cards and refuses to allow them to collect food stamps or other federal benefits. Obama has announced similar principles, but Rubio has still blasted him for soft-pedaling the need to step up enforcement, among other issues. Some of this is Beltway theater; reform could become toxic for Republicans if it's perceived as Obama-friendly. But there also will be very real differences over details involving guest farmworkers, high-skilled immigrants, same-sex couples and the path to citizenship itself. It's a lot easier to agree that wait times should be reasonable or that the border should be secure than to draft legislation determining what those things mean. This shrewd political operator will have to decide how far he's willing to bend to get a deal done with Obama or whether he's content just to get credit for trying." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Notably, Under Rubio's 2013 Bill, He Allowed For A Concession To Democrats To "Allow Immigrants Who Had Already Been Deported To Return To The United States And Get On The Road To Citizenship"

Notably, Under Rubio's 2013 Bill, He Allowed For A Concession To Democrats To "Allow Immigrants Who Had Already Been Deported To Return To The United States And Get On The Road To Citizenship." "Rubio had plenty of leverage. If he walked away at any point, the bill would be doomed. But Rubio and his staff also had to gauge what would be acceptable to the right, so that he wasn't left twisting in the wind when the bill was put to a vote. The other Gang of Eight senators—Republicans John McCain and Jeff Flake of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, and Democrats Dick Durbin of Illinois, Chuck Schumer of New York, Michael Bennet of Colorado, and Robert Menendez of New Jersey—and their aides worked hard to make the bill's provisions palatable to conservatives, even if the changes were

largely cosmetic. "He was basically the backstop, [the] vetoer," one Democratic aide recalls. "Nothing could get done without his approval." But when it came to who was eligible for that path to citizenship, both sides initially dug in, according to several Democratic aides who were present at the negotiations. Then Rubio blinked, agreeing to a compromise closer to the Democrats' proposal. And he made an additional and unexpected concession: The bill would allow immigrants who had already been deported to return to the United States and get on the road to citizenship. Rubio "gave up a lot, probably for something he should have still held firm," says one aide. "And it's not clear if that was because he was a bad negotiator or he had a good heart." For Rubio, now a leading contender for the Republican presidential nomination, his work on the immigration bill—perhaps the most notable effort of his short Senate career—remains a matter that could blow up his candidacy, even though the bill never became the law. (In June 2013, it passed in the Senate with a bipartisan majority, but then-Speaker John Boehner, yielding to right-wing opposition to the measure, would not bring it to a vote in the House.) To conservative Republicans who favor a tough approach to illegal immigration, Rubio's participation in the Gang of Eight is disqualifying. To moderate GOPers, who see the need for their party to expand its appeal among Latinos, a fast-growing and critical voting bloc, Rubio's work on the bill is a selling point for the general election. Rubio's challenge has been to try to win over both sides, a difficult task given that conservatives find him too liberal on immigration and reform advocates view Rubio's subsequent attempt to distance himself from the Gang of Eight bill as a betrayal." (Mother Jones, 12/4/15)

Previously, In 2012, Rubio Announced He Was Working To "Craft A Bill That Would Allow Some Illegal Immigrants To Remain And Work In The U.S. But Would Not Help Them Gain A Path To Citizenship"

Previously, In 2012, Rubio Announced He Was Working To "Craft A Bill That Would Allow Some Illegal Immigrants To Remain And Work In The U.S. But Would Not Help Them Gain A Path To Citizenship." "The revelation about his grandfather's deportation order comes as Rubio's name is increasingly mentioned as a possible GOP vice presidential nominee. The rising Republican star is viewed by his party as key to wooing Hispanic voters in swing states like Florida, Colorado and New Mexico. Yet while he has long supported legal immigration, Rubio has mostly followed his party's line in opposing any proposal that resembles amnesty for illegal immigrants. Rubio recently announced he is working to craft a bill that would allow some illegal immigrants to remain and work in the U.S. but would not help them gain a path to citizenship. A spokesman for Rubio said Garcia was like thousands of other refugees who often don't arrive with all the necessary visas. He added that the U.S. allowed Cubans to stay. "It's clear he left Cuba when he did because of the political situation there," Rubio spokesman Alex Conant said in an email Wednesday. "He may have chosen the US because his family is here, but he was fleeing Castro's Cuba and arrived here as a refugee — just like thousands of others. Refugees by definition aren't likely to arrive with all the necessary visas, but our nation allowed the Cuban exiles to stay," Conant said. Garcia's case highlights the situation for many Cuban exiles that prompted the U.S. to pass the Cuban Adjustment Act. The law permits most Cubans who arrived in the U.S. after Jan. 1, 1959, to apply for residency and ultimately citizenship after living in the country only a year." (*The Associated Press*, 3/25/12)

Ultimately, "After Experiencing Excoriating Blowback From His Party's Conservative Base, He Reversed Himself, Then Went To Radio Silence On The Issue"

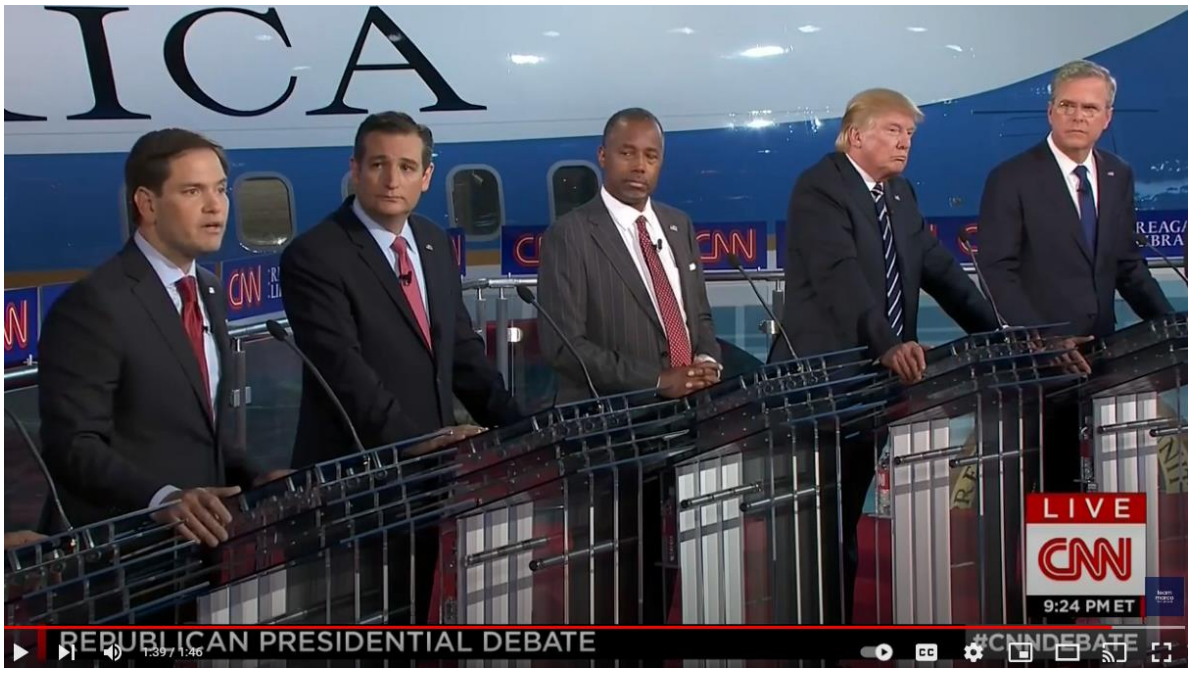
Ultimately, "After Experiencing Excoriating Blowback From His Party's Conservative Base, He Reversed Himself, Then Went To Radio Silence On The Issue." "During his 2010 Senate run, as the Tea Party's influence rose in the GOP, he came out against the DREAM Act, but about a year later, he was a member of the so-called Gang of Eight, the bipartisan group in Congress backing broad, comprehensive immigration reform that included a version of the act Then, after experiencing excoriating blowback from his party's conservative base, he reversed himself, then went to radio silence on the issue. Pressed by Sean Hannity during a September interview, Rubio demurred on his own plan. "The first two things you have to do is stop illegal immigration. Then second you have to modernize our legal immigration system, and then third you can have a debate about how to even legalize people to begin with," Rubio told the Fox News host. "And then, ultimately in 10 or 12 years, you could have a broader debate about how has this worked out and should we allow some of them to apply for green cards and eventually citizenship." Critics immediately pounced that Rubio was ruling out a path to citizenship during his second term, should he be elected." (*Politico*, 11/2015)

"After The Gang Of Eight Bill Stalled In The House And Rubio Lost The Trust Of Many Conservatives, He Immediately Began Moving Away From The Legislation That He Helped Pass"

"After The Gang Of Eight Bill Stalled In The House And Rubio Lost The Trust Of Many Conservatives, He Immediately Began Moving Away From The Legislation That He Helped Pass." "But just months later, Rubio helped to pass a similar bill to the one he disparaged. He became a member of the "Gang of Eight," a bipartisan group of senators who lead the fight and eventually helped pass comprehensive reform that included a path to citizenship. Conservatives were vehemently opposed to the bill and and felt betrayed by Rubio. "He lied to us first and he went around and repeated that lie from the panhandle to the keys. That's why he got elected," Oliver said of his 2010 promise. "That really angered me. I wasn't raised that way. He didn't keep his word." After the Gang of Eight bill stalled in the House and Rubio lost the trust of many conservatives, he immediately began moving away from the legislation that he helped pass." (NBC News, 1/12/16)

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Argued That The American People Would Be "Reasonable" With Non-Criminal Illegal Immigrants Once The Border Was Secure And Legal Immigration Was Overhauled

VIDEO: In September 2015, Rubio Argued That The American People Would Be "Reasonable" With Non-Criminal Illegal Immigrants Once The Border Was Secure And Legal Immigration Was Overhauled. (YouTube, 9/16/15)



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However, In January 2016, "Rubio's Spokesperson Alex Conant Confirmed That Rubio Still Does Back A Path To Citizenship"; Rubio Also Noted His Support For A Pathway To Citizenship Multiple Times In 2015

However, In January 2016, "Rubio's Spokesperson Alex Conant Confirmed That Rubio Still Does Back A Path To Citizenship"; Rubio Also Noted His Support For A Pathway To Citizenship Multiple Times In 2015. "While he doesn't often say it, he still supports a path to citizenship. In June when he was asked if he supported a path to citizenship, he said, "I do." And in an interview on Hannity on Fox News in September, Rubio said he supports citizenship at the end of a long, complicated process that could take an immigrant more than ten years to navigate. Instead of being specific when he does talk about the 11 million undocumented immigrants, Rubio uses a loaded term that appeals to many in the Republican base. He recently started saying on the campaign trail that he's "not going to support amnesty," like he did at a Burlington, Iowa town hall Monday. Asked to clarify, Rubio's spokesperson Alex Conant confirmed that Rubio still does back a path to citizenship. Should Rubio win the Republican nomination and have to appeal to a broader voter base, it's unclear what position he'll take." (NBC News, 1/12/16)

In 2018, "Rubio Says He Doesn't Disavow The Gang Of Eight Bill And Seems Encouraged To See New GOP Senators Like Thom Tillis Of North Carolina And James Lankford Of Oklahoma Step Into Prominent Roles In Immigration Talks This Time Around"

In 2018, "Rubio Says He Doesn't Disavow The Gang Of Eight Bill And Seems Encouraged To See New GOP Senators Like Thom Tillis Of North Carolina And James Lankford Of Oklahoma Step Into Prominent Roles In Immigration Talks This Time Around." "Rubio

says he doesn't disavow the Gang of Eight bill and seems encouraged to see new GOP senators like Thom Tillis of North Carolina and James Lankford of Oklahoma step into prominent roles in immigration talks this time around. And he said he's not signaling a conservative turn by largely staying out of the bipartisan talks, at least for now. Instead, he says he's just acknowledging political reality: That a big bill written by a band of senators from both parties is no longer the way to get a solution before the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program expires in March, though that deadline is murkier because a court has ordered the administration to start taking DACA renewals again. "We don't have a lot of time here to get a result. We have a 40-day period. We don't have a lot of time here for an extended back and forth," Rubio said. "What we do now [needs to be] as narrow and as focused as possible. The bigger this bill is, the harder it will be to pass.'" (*Politico*, 1/25/18)

RUBIO, AT TIMES, APPEARS TO HAVE SUPPORTED THE 'DREAM ACT'

In 2013, Rubio Expressed Sympathy And Compassion For Young Illegal Immigrants (Dreamers) And Compared Them To His Own Grandfather, Who Also Was An Illegal Immigrant

In 2013, Rubio Expressed Sympathy And Compassion For Young Illegal Immigrants (Dreamers) And Compared Them To His Own Grandfather, Who Also Was An Illegal Immigrant. "In another book, The Rise of Marco Rubio, the journalist Manuel Roig-Franzia reveals that Papa was also, for a time, an undocumented immigrant. After fleeing Cuba in 1962, he was detained at the Miami airport and later ordered deported. But he was never sent home, and eventually he qualified for residency under the Cuban Adjustment Act of 1966, which still ensures Cuban refugees special treatment in the U.S. Rubio says he never knew his grandfather had lived in the U.S. illegally. But he told TIME that Papa's situation illustrated the moral quandaries surrounding immigration, which he wrestles with today. "He didn't have a legal right to be here, but America wasn't going to deport an elderly man to a communist dictatorship," Rubio says. "It equates to these kids who were brought here when they were 5 or 6 and have no memory of the country where they were born. America is a compassionate country that says, 'Let's help these folks.' But you have to do it in a way that doesn't encourage people to bring their kids in the future, so they can get the same benefit. It's complicated.'" (*Time*, 2/7/13)

"In 2012, Rubio Edged Back Toward Compassion, Proposing A Scaled-Back Dream Act"

"In 2012, Rubio Edged Back Toward Compassion, Proposing A Scaled-Back Dream Act." "In 2012, Rubio edged back toward compassion, proposing a scaled-back Dream Act. But before he could introduce a bill, the Obama Administration stole his thunder by unilaterally granting temporary legal status to the so-called Dreamers. That helped revive enthusiasm for Obama among Hispanics annoyed by the Administration's record number of deportations. Romney ended up with a meager 27% of the Hispanic vote; had he matched Bush's 40% share, he might be President today. His thrashing persuaded many Republican elites that as long as they're

perceived as unsympathetic obstacles to fixing a dysfunctional immigration system, the fastest-growing sector of the electorate won't listen to anything they say." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Regarding DACA, "At Times Rubio Has Supported The Idea That The Program Should Be Ended Only After A Legislative Solution Is Reached. But During His Run For President In 2015, He Said He Would End The Program On His First Day As President, Regardless Of Whether Congress Had Reached A Compromise"

Regarding DACA, "At Times Rubio Has Supported The Idea That The Program Should Be Ended Only After A Legislative Solution Is Reached. But During His Run For President In 2015, He Said He Would End The Program On His First Day As President, Regardless Of Whether Congress Had Reached A Compromise." "Since the deferred action program was created, Rubio has remained consistent in his opinion that the program was created illegally and that the executive branch did not have the authority to create it. Rubio has asserted that Congress has a responsibility to create a permanent solution for immigrants who came to the United States illegally as children. He has been less consistent in his opinion about when the program should end. At times Rubio has supported the idea that the program should be ended only after a legislative solution is reached. But during his run for president in 2015, he said he would end the program on his first day as president, regardless of whether Congress had reached a compromise." (Politifact, 11/1/22)

RUBIO PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED GRANTING IN-STATE TUITION BENEFITS TO UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

"As A State Legislator From The Overwhelmingly Hispanic Community Of West Miami, He Supported Legislation That Would Allow Undocumented Students To Qualify For In-State Tuition"

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"In The Years Before His Speakership, Rubio Would Also Cosponsor A Bill That Sought To Award In-State Tuition Rates To The Children Of Undocumented Immigrants"

"In The Years Before His Speakership, Rubio Would Also Cosponsor A Bill That Sought To Award In-State Tuition Rates To The Children Of Undocumented Immigrants." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE, RUBIO SPEARHEADED AN EFFORT STOP A BILL THAT WOULD HAVE REQUIRED COLLEGE TO SUBMIT VISA INFORMATION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

"In 2002, Rubio Led A Successful Charge To Quash A Republican Bill That Would Have Required All Colleges To Submit The Visa Information Of Foreign Students To The Florida Department Of Law Enforcement"

"In 2002, Rubio Led A Successful Charge To Quash A Republican Bill That Would Have Required All Colleges To Submit The Visa Information Of Foreign Students To The Florida Department Of Law Enforcement." "In 2002, Rubio led a successful charge to quash a Republican bill that would have required all colleges to submit the visa information of foreign students to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. "I'm concerned," he said, "that by the end of the session, immigrant and foreign-born people who are here in this country legally won't be able to get married without a struggle, get a driver's license without being hassled, and won't be able to go to school without being tracked.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE, RUBIO KILLED SEVERAL ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION BILLS

Rubio "Made Sure As Speaker That An Array Of Draconian Anti-Immigrant Proposals Never Saw The Light Of Day For A Vote"

Rubio "Made Sure As Speaker That An Array Of Draconian Anti-Immigrant Proposals Never Saw The Light Of Day For A Vote." "Rubio's policy stances on immigration remain at odds with the views of the overwhelming majority of Hispanics. From the start, Rubio has had a hesitant, equivocating relationship with immigration reform—reflecting both the welcome arms that met his immigrant family and the nativist right-wing impulses of his own party. In the Florida House, he backed a bill with some elements of the DREAM Act. He also made sure as speaker that an array of draconian anti-immigrant proposals never saw the light of day for a vote." (*Politico*, 11/2015)

Rubio "Can Also Be Credited With Stalling Legislation Opposed By Immigration Advocates"

Rubio "Can Also Be Credited With Stalling Legislation Opposed By Immigration Advocates." "When Rubio became speaker in 2006, proponents of immigration reform believed they would have a good chance of passing immigrant-friendly laws. Rubio was one of a handful of members from Miami who represented immigrant-heavy districts and were considered sensitive to advocates' causes. As Speaker, Rubio "straddled that issue," said Juan Zapata, who served in the Florida House with Rubio and is supporting Jeb Bush. Rubio no longer co-sponsored the DREAM Act, but he can also be credited with stalling legislation opposed by immigration advocates." (NBC News, 1/12/16)

Rubio Blocked Legislation That "Would Have Cracked Down On Enforcement And Made It More Difficult For Undocumented Workers To Work –- Bills Backed By Many Republicans And Opponents To Illegal Immigration"

Rubio Blocked Legislation That "Would Have Cracked Down On Enforcement And Made It More Difficult For Undocumented Workers To Work –- Bills Backed By Many Republicans And Opponents To Illegal Immigration." "After Congress tried and failed to pass comprehensive immigration reform in 2006, legislators introduced a series of bills that would have cracked down on enforcement and made it more difficult for undocumented workers to work –- bills backed by many Republicans and opponents to illegal immigration. Rubio, who singularly controlled what legislation was brought up for debate, refused to let the measures progress. Don Brown, who was a member of the House legislature at the time, sponsored several of the bills. He said he was told that the proposals would never go anywhere. "We had quite a number of members in the Republican caucus that were from the Miami area and they were very sensitive about the issue," Brown said. But during his run for Senate, Rubio took a hard right turn on immigration." (NBC News, 1/12/16)

RUBIO'S FAMILY IS KNOWN TO SUPPORT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

In 2012, Rubio's Mother Was Recorded Telling Her Son To Not Be Harsh Against Illegal Immigrants Calling Them "Pobrecitos" And Saying "They Came For The Same Reasons We Came"

In 2012, Rubio's Mother Was Recorded Telling Her Son To Not Be Harsh Against Illegal Immigrants Calling Them "Pobrecitos" And Saying "They Came For The Same Reasons We Came." "Oriales García Rubio knows how it feels to want more. When she was a girl in central Cuba in the 1930s, her family of nine lived in a one-room house with a dirt floor. Her dolls were Coke bottles dressed in rags. She dreamed of becoming an actress. Instead she married a security guard, moved with him to the U.S. and found work as a hotel maid. Her husband got a job as a bartender while starting a series of failed businesses—a vegetable stand, a dry cleaner, a grocery. They never had much. But their house had a real floor. Their daughters had real dolls. They sent all four of their children to college to chase their own dreams. That's why on the morning of Dec. 21, she called her youngest son, Marco Antonio Rubio, the 41-year-old Senator from Florida and great Hispanic hope of the Republican Party—or, as she calls him, Tony. She got his voice mail. "Tony, some loving advice from the person who cares for you most in the world," she said in Spanish. "Don't mess with the immigrants, my son. Please, don't mess with them." She reminded him that undocumented Americans—los pobrecitos, she called them, the poor things—work hard and get treated horribly. "They're human beings just like us, and they came for the same reasons we came. To work. To improve their lives. So please, don't mess with them.'" (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Rubio Is Known To Have Agreed With His Mother's Sentiment That Illegal Immigrants Needed Support

Rubio Is Known To Have Agreed With His Mother's Sentiment That Illegal Immigrants Needed Support. "For now, though, Rubio says he's content to stay where he is and try to help los pobrecitos secure a better life for their kids, just as his parents did for him. If that ends up

helping his career, well, his parents wanted him to chase his dreams. "I've always viewed politics the following way: if you do a good job at the job you're doing, you'll have opportunities to do other things in the future," Rubio says. "Maybe things you never envisioned.'" (*Time*, 2/7/13)

RUBIO OPPOSES THE REPEAL OF BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP

In 2015, Rubio Noted That He Did Not Support Trump's Calls To Repeal Birthright Citizenship

In 2015, Rubio Noted That He Did Not Support Trump's Calls To Repeal Birthright Citizenship. "For many of the Republican presidential candidates at the Iowa State Fair this week, it has come down to a single question: How much do you agree with Donald Trump? There has been no avoiding Trump here, even days after he buzzed the fairgrounds with his helicopter., opens new tab On Tuesday, it was Marco Rubio's turn. Before speaking at the fair's storied political soapbox, Rubio was asked whether, as Trump favors, automatic or so-called "birthright" citizenship–the legal right of children born in U.S. territory to become citizens regardless of their parents' legal status–should be repealed. Rubio said no. "I don't agree with that," the senator from Florida said. Trump on Monday called for ending birthright citizenship, opens new tab as part of his immigration platform. Scott Walker, the Wisconsin governor, quickly said he supported the idea. Repealing the right would likely involve amending the U.S. Constitution., opens new tab Rubio, who the most recent CNN poll, opens new tabhas trailing far behind Trump in Iowa, spoke to fairgoers for less than 10 minutes in a driving rain and took no questions from the small crowd." (*Reuters*, 8/25/15)

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Opposes Repeal Of The 14th Amendment And Birthright Citizenship

VIDEO: In August 2015, Rubio Opposes Repeal Of The 14th Amendment And Birthright Citizenship. (YouTube, 8/20/15)


marcorubio.com
FOX NEWS channel
SEN. MARCO RUBIO (R-FL)
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
the O'Reilly FACTOR
TO IRAN AS PART OF DEAL BROKERED WITH U.S. AND 5 OTHER WORLD POW
0:35 / 5:00

(YouTube, 8/20/15)

RUBIO ASKED THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION TO GRANT TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS) TO VENEZUELAN CITIZENS IN THE U.S.

In 2019, Rubio Was The Only Republican In A Group Of Senators Requesting Trump "To Grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) To Venezuelan Citizens In The United States, Amid An Ongoing Political And Humanitarian Crisis In The South American Country"

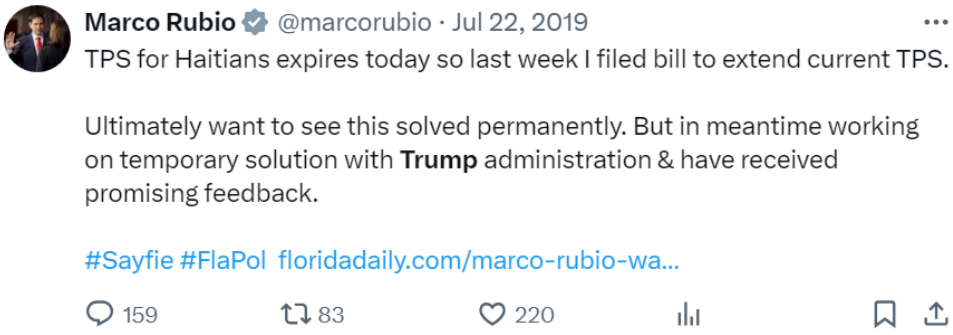
In 2019, Rubio Was The Only Republican In A Group Of Senators Requesting Trump "To Grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) To Venezuelan Citizens In The United States, Amid An Ongoing Political And Humanitarian Crisis In The South American Country."

"A bipartisan group of senators asked President Trump on Thursday to grant temporary protected status (TPS) to Venezuelan citizens in the United States, amid an ongoing political and humanitarian crisis in the South American country. Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), fellow Democratic Sens. Dick Durbin (Ill.) and Bob Menendez (N.J.), and Republican Marco Rubio (Fla.) wrote to the White House, asking for the administration to designate Venezuela within TPS. In a letter reviewed by The Hill, the senators asked Trump for the designation "in light of the ongoing violence, deteriorating security situation, and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela caused by the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro." Under TPS, foreign nationals of a country undergoing man-made or natural disasters are allowed to live and work in the United States as their home country recovers. Designations are made on a country-by-country basis and apply to foreign nationals already in the United States, and can be renewed indefinitely for periods of up to 18 months. Trump has systematically targeted for termination long-standing TPS designations — including some that have been consistently renewed for decades, such as El Salvador. But the Trump administration has kept at least one newer designation active — for Syrian nationals fleeing the country's civil war — suggesting a potential openness to maintain the program in effect. And the Venezuelan crisis has become a central foreign policy issue and a rare point of accord for Trump and Congress. "The situation in Venezuela is volatile and violent, so it makes all the sense in the world to extend Temporary Protected Status to Venezuelan immigrants who should not be forced to return there while circumstances are so dangerous," said Schumer in a statement. "It is imperative Venezuela, working in concert with our allies throughout Latin America, move past the disastrous and despotic Maduro regime and reestablish order, democracy and human rights. The United States must stand as a beacon of freedom and extend this protection to eligible Venezuelans yearning for a peaceful, prosperous and democratic Venezuela," he added. Durbin, Menendez and Rubio, along with Sens. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Cory Booker (D-N.J). introduced last week a bill to designate Venezuela for TPS. But the program generally operates by executive action, with the secretary of Homeland Security announcing new designations and terminations. In their letter, the senators ask Trump to mandate a designation for Venezuela, based on the country's political and economic conditions. "Venezuela clearly meets the standard for TPS as it is obviously too dangerous for Venezuelan nationals to return to their country. It is facing simultaneous humanitarian, economic, and political crises of monumental proportions due to Maduro's criminal regime," wrote the senators. The senators added a reminder that TPS designations don't carry any permanent immigration

benefits for their beneficiaries, and any recipient must pass a background check. “As the United States and our partners in the international community have condemned the illegitimate Maduro regime’s brutal campaign of repression, granting TPS to Venezuela is a concrete measure your Administration can immediately take to alleviate the suffering of innocent Venezuelan civilians and to demonstrate our nation’s commitment to supporting a safe democratic transition in Venezuela so that individuals can safely return home soon,” they wrote. Schumer, Durbin, Menendez and Rubio were joined by 20 other Democratic senators.” (The Hill, 3/7/19)

Additionally, In 2019, Rubio Noted He Filed Legislation To Extend TPS For Haitians And That He Was Working With The Trump Administration On A Longer Term Solution

In 2019, Rubio Noted He Filed Legislation To Extend TPS For Haitians And That He Was Working With The Trump Administration On A Longer Term Solution. (Twitter, 7/22/19)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 22, 2019
TPS for Haitians expires today so last week I filed bill to extend current TPS.
Ultimately want to see this solved permanently. But in meantime working on temporary solution with Trump administration & have received promising feedback.
#Sayfie #FlaPol floridadaily.com/marco-rubio-wa...
159
83
220

(Twitter, 7/22/19)

RUBIO PREVIOUSLY CRITICIZED HARDLINE CONSERVATIVE IMMIGRATION RHETORIC

In 2010, Rubio Criticized Hardline Conservative Immigration Rhetoric Noting “The Rhetoric Of Some Republicans On Immigration ‘Has Created A Problem, ‘He Says. ‘I Don't Think The Republican Party Should Be The Anti-Illegal Immigration Party’”

In 2010, Rubio Criticized Hardline Conservative Immigration Rhetoric Noting “The Rhetoric Of Some Republicans On Immigration ‘Has Created A Problem, ‘He Says. ‘I Don't Think The Republican Party Should Be The Anti-Illegal Immigration Party.’” “Securing the border is critical, Mr. Rubio says, but he also recommends that Republicans keep their nativist impulses in check to avoid hurting the party with Latinos, a good chunk of whom are natural GOP allies on growth and opportunity. The rhetoric of some Republicans on immigration "has created a problem," he says. "I don't think the Republican Party should be the anti-illegal immigration party. We should be the pro legal immigration party, and we need to do a better job of explaining that to people." Mr. Rubio's fan base is similar to that of Sarah Palin, though Mr. Rubio, whose family immigrated from Cuba, gets more points for policy smarts. He's never met Ms. Palin but admires her political style: "I think she brings a level of real-life everyday sentiment that people identify with. . . . I think she energizes people." Among both

supporters and skeptics in the GOP, there's a sense that the two, along with Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan, are among the party's leaders of the future—and also a sense that after the Bush interregnum the fundamental soul of the GOP is Reaganite after all. Money has also begun pouring in to help level the playing field against the well-funded governor." (*The Wall Street Journal*, 3/13/10)

RUBIO DOES NOT SUPPORT A MASS DEPORTATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

Rubio, Who Is Known To Back Legal Status For Illegal Immigrants Only After The Border Is Secure, Also "Said He Would Not Deport All Of The Undocumented Immigrants In The Country Now"

Rubio, Who Is Known To Back Legal Status For Illegal Immigrants Only After The Border Is Secure, Also "Said He Would Not Deport All Of The Undocumented Immigrants In The Country Now." "Immigration: Secure the border, then work towards a legal status and possible path to citizenship. More vetting for refugees. Rubio supports a legal status for undocumented immigrants, but only after the U.S. border is secure. To accomplish that, Rubio said he would hire 20,000 new border agents and would complete the 700-mile fence at the border. The Florida Senator said he would not deport all of the undocumented immigrants in the country now. In 2013, Rubio joined the "Gang of Eight," which drafted and pushed a comprehensive immigration reform bill, including a path to citizenship, through the Senate. After the bill froze in the House, Rubio refocused his efforts on securing the border with Mexico." (PBS, 4/13/15)

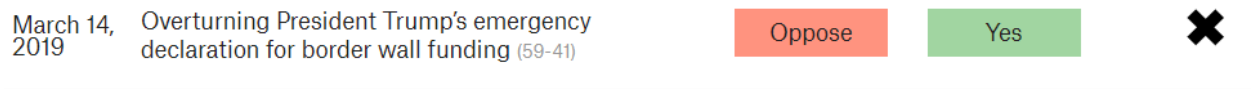
RUBIO VOTED IN A MANNER THAT UNDERMINED THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO SECURE THE BORDER

In 2019, Rubio Voted For A Resolution That "Terminates The National Emergency Related To The U.S.-Mexico Border, Declared By The President On February 15, 2019"

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration

Rubio Voted Yea On HJ Res 46, A Resolution That "Terminates The National Emergency Related To The U.S.-Mexico Border, Declared By The President On February 15, 2019." (HJ Res 46, Resolution Passed – Senate (59-41), U.S. Senate, 3/14/19, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)



("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

In 2019, Rubio Voted In A Manner Opposed To An Effort That "Would Fund Humanitarian Assistance And Security At The Southern Border By Rescinding And Re-Appropriating Roughly $4.5 Billion In Foreign Aid (Approximately 10% Of Total U.S. Foreign Aid)"

In 2019, Rubio Voted Yea On A Motion To Table The Paul Amendment To HR 3401, Which Provided Funds For Border Security. (Paul Amdt To HR 3401, Tabled (77 - 15), United States Senate, 6/26/19, Rubio Voted To Table)

- NOTE: "To rescind $4,586,000,000 from foreign assistance and exchange programs." (Paul Amdt To HR 3401)

ACU: The Paul Amendment To HR 3401 "Would Fund Humanitarian Assistance And Security At The Southern Border By Rescinding And Re-Appropriating Roughly $4.5 Billion In Foreign Aid (Approximately 10% Of Total U.S. Foreign Aid)." "The Paul (R-KY, ACUF Lifetime 96%) amendment to a supplemental appropriations bill would fund humanitarian assistance and security at the southern border by rescinding and re-appropriating roughly $4.5 billion in foreign aid (approximately 10% of total U.S. foreign aid)." (American Conservative Union)

The American Conservative Union "Supports Prioritizing Funds To Strengthen National Security And Address The Crisis At The Southern Border And Supported This Amendment." "ACU supports prioritizing funds to strengthen national security and address the crisis at the southern border and supported this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment by a vote to table on June 26, 2019 by a vote of 77- 15 and the underlying bill was signed into law without this crucial reform. (A "no" vote supported the ACU position.)" (American Conservative Union)

IN 2024, RUBIO BLAMED THE LACK OF A CONGRESSIONAL BORDER SECURITY MEASURE ON 'CRAZY… MAGA PEOPLE'

VIDEO: In January 2024, Rubio Blames The Failure Of The 2024 Senate Border Security Measure On Biden Essentially Out-Maneuvering "The Crazy Republican Maga People In The House…"

VIDEO: In January 2024, Rubio Blames The Failure Of The 2024 Senate Border Security Measure On Biden Essentially Out-Maneuvering "The Crazy Republican Maga People In The House…" (Fox News, 1/22/24)


MARCO RUBIO (R) | FLORIDA SENATOR
FOX NEWS channel
BIDEN ADMIN'S TX LAWSUIT REVEALS BORDER HYPOCRISY
0:13 / 0:18
THE INGRAHAM ANGLE

(Fox News, 1/22/24)

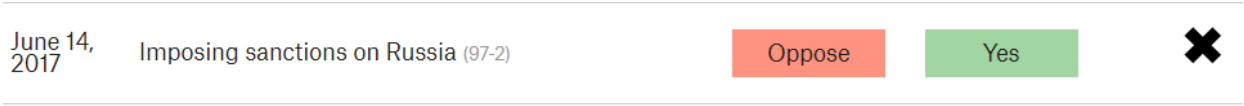
RUBIO VOTED IN A MANNER THAT UNDERMINED THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S ABILITY TO CONDUCT FOREIGN POLICY

In 2017, Rubio Supported Legislation To Impose Sanctions On Russia – Against The Wishes The Trump Administration

<u>According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration</u>

Rubio Voted Yea On S Amdt 232 To S 722, To Impose Sanctions With Respect To The Russian Federation And To Combat Terrorism And Illicit Financing. (S Amdt 232 To S 722, Amendment Passed – Senate (97-2), U.S. Senate, 6/14/17, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)



("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

In 2019, Rubio Voted In A Manner "Disapproving Of The President's Proposal To Take An Action Relating To The Application Of Certain Sanctions With Respect To The Russian Federation"

<u>According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration</u>

In 2019, Rubio Voted Yea On A Motion To Invoke Cloture On SJR 2, Which Disapproved Of The President's Proposal To Take An Action Relating To The Application Of Certain

Sanctions With Respect To The Russian Federation. (SJR 2, Passed (57 - 42), United States Senate, 1/16/19, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Jan. 16, 2019	Disapproving of the Trump administration's plan to lift sanctions on three Russian companies (57-42)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

In 2017, Rubio Voted For Legislation Imposing Sanctions On Russia, Iran, And North Korea – This Legislation Was Opposed By The Trump Administration

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration

Rubio Voted Yea On HR 3364, The Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act. (HR 3364, Bill Passed – Senate (98-2), U.S. Senate, 7/27/17, Rubio Voted Yea)

- NOTE: "This bill directs the President to impose sanctions against: (1) Iran's ballistic missile or weapons of mass destruction programs, (2) the sale or transfer to Iran of military equipment or the provision of related technical or financial assistance, and (3) Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and affiliated foreign persons." (HR 3364)
- NOTE: "The President must submit for congressional review certain proposed actions to terminate or waive sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation." (HR 3364)
- NOTE: "The bill modifies and increases the President's authority to impose sanctions on persons in violation of certain United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding North Korea." (HR 3364)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

July 27, 2017	Imposing sanctions on Russia, Iran and North Korea (98-2)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

RUBIO'S CONTROVERSIAL FOREIGN POLICY AND DEFENSE AGENDA

RUBIO APPEARS TO HAVE GENERALLY POSTURED AS A NEOCON AND INTERVENTIONIST

In 2011, "Rubio Says He Believes Its Important To Account To People Why It Is 'Essential' For The United States To 'Spend Money And Risk Lives On Foreign Policy'"

In 2011, "Rubio Says He Believes Its Important To Account To People Why It Is 'Essential' For The United States To 'Spend Money And Risk Lives On Foreign Policy.'" "Marco Rubio was the last in the current crop of freshman senators to deliver his maiden speech. When he finally took the floor, the Republican from South Florida sounded a very different note than the 12 GOP freshmen who spoke before him. Where others focused exclusively on the domestic economy -- the size of the U.S. debt, the need for a balanced-budget amendment, their opposition to raising taxes -- Rubio chose a global theme, offering his vision for America's role in the world in the 21st century. This week, Rubio will expand on that theme with a speech at the Jesse Helms Center in North Carolina that is intended to be a full-throated defense of American engagement overseas, even at a time of belt tightening at home. Rubio says he believes its important to account to people why it is "essential" for the United States to "spend money and risk lives on foreign policy." In particular, Rubio says he will reinforce the importance of promoting democracy. "We don't always agree with other democracies but very rarely do we find ourselves fighting them," he says This kind of rhetoric on U.S. policy abroad certainly doesn't fit the stereotype of a politician who rode to office in 2010 on the backs of tea party activists -- upsetting a popular governor along the way -- and who embodies in many ways the new generation of fiscal conservatives in Congress. But Rubio seems intent on carving out a path distinct from many others in the Class of 2010. Through his high-profile speeches, as well as his legislative collaborations with senior senators and daily work on the Foreign Relations and Select Intelligence panels, he is emerging as a fresh GOP voice on foreign policy. In doing so, he is contradicting the notion that the tea party is synonymous with international isolationism. And he is challenging the narrative that his party, as a whole, is headed in that same direction." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

"Rubio Has Not Been Shy In Pushing For That Sort Of Muscular Foreign Policy Approach"

"Rubio Has Not Been Shy In Pushing For That Sort Of Muscular Foreign Policy Approach." "But while other new members passed over the Foreign Relations Committee for posts on Appropriations, Commerce or other panels with more home-state relevance, Rubio embraced the chance to develop his foreign policy chops and has quickly become one of the panel's most active GOP members. "I am a big believer that very little of what happens in our daily lives is not directly influenced by things that are happening around the world," Rubio explains. "We're not Liechtenstein; we're not Monaco; we're the United States. So our interests are found globally everywhere." "The world needs a strong, decisive America as much as ever,"

he adds. Rubio has not been shy in pushing for that sort of muscular foreign policy approach." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

In 2012, Rubio "Called On The U.S. To Continue Its Involvement Throughout The World, Especially In The Middle East Hot Spots Of Iran And Syria"

In 2012, Rubio "Called On The U.S. To Continue Its Involvement Throughout The World, Especially In The Middle East Hot Spots Of Iran And Syria." "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio delivered a foreign policy speech at a D.C. think tank on Wednesday in which he called on the U.S. to continue its involvement throughout the world, especially in the Middle East hot spots of Iran and Syria. Attempting to show off his foreign policy chops, Rubio argued for an American foreign policy that remains engaged in foreign lands, saying the U.S. should become involved in Syria, and arguing that military action may need to be taken to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. "I disagree with voices in my own party who argue we should not engage at all. Who warn we should heed the words of John Quincy Adams not to go 'abroad, in search of monsters to destroy,'" said Rubio at the Brookings Institution. "I disagree, because all around us we see the human face of America's influence in the world." Rubio, whose speech did little to dismiss the vice presidential speculation surrounding him, stressed the need for America to build coalitions when becoming involved in foreign affairs, saying there is no other country "to hand off the baton to, even if it were wise to do so." But such coalition building should not hamper the U.S. from leading on the international stage, he said. The Florida senator criticized President Obama for "an overreliance on institutions, global institutions whether its the security council or its the United Nations to take the lead on some of these issues." He cited Libya as a case in which the president waited too long to lead, and results were stifled because of inaction." (NBC News, 4/25/12)

In 2014, "Alarmed By The Rise Of Noninterventionist Voices In His Party, Senator Marco Rubio, Republican Of Florida, Is Aiming To Revive His Political Prospects In An Unlikely Way: Trying To Become The Leading Voice For A Muscular Brand Of Foreign Policy"

In 2014, "Alarmed By The Rise Of Noninterventionist Voices In His Party, Senator Marco Rubio, Republican Of Florida, Is Aiming To Revive His Political Prospects In An Unlikely Way: Trying To Become The Leading Voice For A Muscular Brand Of Foreign Policy." "Alarmed by the rise of noninterventionist voices in his party, Senator Marco Rubio, Republican of Florida, is aiming to revive his political prospects in an unlikely way: trying to become the leading voice for a muscular brand of foreign policy. The road to presidential success in Iowa and New Hampshire may not run through the Crimean Peninsula or the streets of Caracas, but in recent weeks Mr. Rubio has used Russia's incursion into Ukraine and the violent clashes in Venezuela to remind Republicans of their orthodoxy -- projecting strength abroad -- and of why he was such a favorite in the party before seeing his popularity slip over his backing of an immigration overhaul. The party has been pulled by competing forces before -- such as when Pat Buchanan's more isolationist leanings contrasted with the internationalist views of the first President George Bush in 1992 -- but the ascent of the Tea Party and its skepticism about foreign entanglements is now framing an even larger internal debate." (*The New York Times*, 3/7/14)

Rubio "Sought To Link The Right's Resolute Belief In American Exceptionalism With A Call For The United States To Play A More Robust Role In Confronting Bad Actors On The World Stage"

Rubio "Sought To Link The Right's Resolute Belief In American Exceptionalism With A Call For The United States To Play A More Robust Role In Confronting Bad Actors On The World Stage." "Addressing a gathering of conservatives here on Thursday, Mr. Rubio, a potential 2016 presidential candidate, sought to link the right's resolute belief in American exceptionalism with a call for the United States to play a more robust role in confronting bad actors on the world stage. That posture stands in contrast with other members of his party, notably Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky, who argues that the United States should be wary of foreign intervention and retreat from the policies of the George W. Bush era. The divergent national security views of the two ambitious, first-term senators offer an early preview of a debate sure to play out in the Republican presidential primary in 2016. "There is only one nation on earth capable of rallying and bringing together the free people on this planet to stand up to the spread of totalitarianism," Mr. Rubio told attendees of the Conservative Political Action Conference, offering a tour d'horizon of affairs in China, North Korea, Iran, Venezuela and Russia. After suffering a bruising from conservatives over immigration, Mr. Rubio, who devoted over half of his 16-minute address to national security issues, has been delivering the same message of late in formal speeches to conservative think tanks, in Twitter messages, op-ed pieces, television appearances, on the Senate floor and in private conversations with leaders on trips to Britain, South Korea and Japan. He is not only trying to rehabilitate his image among those conservatives who believe that he was advocating for amnesty for illegal immigrants, he also is seizing an opening to put a potential presidential rival who has enjoyed far better reviews recently on the defensive. For a while, Mr. Paul's views on national security, such as his opposition to the use of drones and the National Security Agency surveillance program, dovetailed with the deep conservative unease toward empowering President Obama. But Ukraine offers a moment for hawks like Mr. Rubio to reassert themselves. In an interview, Mr. Rubio did not mention Mr. Paul by name, but the Floridian plainly wants to begin drawing differences between his more hawkish approach to foreign policy and Mr. Paul's preference for restraint abroad. "There are forces within our party, there have always been in American politics, that basically say, 'Who cares what happens everywhere else? Just mind our own business,' " Mr. Rubio said, warning that there are "consequences and repercussions" to such an outlook. Doug Stafford, a top adviser to Mr. Paul, said the senator from Kentucky "rejects the label of isolationism." "He believes in a strong national defense, and an America that leads the way in the world and engages with other nations," Mr. Stafford said. "For too long there has been a false debate between those who wish to be everywhere all the time, and nowhere.'" (*The New York Times*, 3/7/14)

In 2015, Rubio Delivered A Vaunted Foreign Policy Speech During Which He Laid Out "Undiluted Neoconservatism Molded By A Coterie Of Neocon Advisers Plucked From The Most Recent Bush Administration"

In 2015, Rubio Delivered A Vaunted Foreign Policy Speech During Which He Laid Out "Undiluted Neoconservatism Molded By A Coterie Of Neocon Advisers Plucked From The Most Recent Bush Administration." "Marco Rubio gave his big foreign policy speech yesterday, and he carved out space in his remarks to praise many former presidents for their

vision and moral clarity when it came to foreign affairs. He led off with a quote from John F. Kennedy, name-checked Harry Truman, said "Reagan" a (surprisingly scant) three times. The overall thrust of his remarks was that American foreign policy in the 20th century was just terrific, and as president he'll bring that same spirit of Cold War resolve back to the White House and make sure "the 21st century will be another American Century." One president's name didn't come up – the last Republican to hold the office, George W. Bush. That makes sense, given that the Bush legacy is still politically toxic and other 2016 wannabes are taking no small amount of grief for associating themselves with it. But really, Rubio should have given W. at least some credit, given that the foreign policy vision he laid out was undiluted neoconservatism molded by a coterie of neocon advisers plucked from the most recent Bush administration. And, in classic neocon fashion, Rubio's doctrine of foreign policy consisted mainly of black-and-white moralizing and dubious assurances that bloated military budgets, in conjunction with tough-guy posturing, will bend the globe to America's will. To make his case, Rubio attacked what he viewed as the "deterioration of our physical and ideological strength" under the Obama administration, which "has led to a world far more dangerous than when President Obama entered office.'" (*Salon*, 5/14/15)

2015: Rubio "Has Tried To Establish Himself As The Hawkish Foreign Policy Expert. He Has Called For Increased Military Funding And Building Up Weapons, And He Often Talks About Threats Faced From Iran And From ISIS"

2015: Rubio "Has Tried To Establish Himself As The Hawkish Foreign Policy Expert. He Has Called For Increased Military Funding And Building Up Weapons, And He Often Talks About Threats Faced From Iran And From ISIS." "As Rubio moved toward his presidential bid in April, he has tried to establish himself as the hawkish foreign policy expert. He has called for increased military funding and building up weapons, and he often talks about threats faced from Iran and from ISIS." (Politifact, 5/18/15)

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Criticizes Neo-Isolationist Sentiments And Argues That America Retreating Has Failed "Every Time It Has Been Tried"

VIDEO: In September 2015, Rubio Criticizes Neo-Isolationist Sentiments And Argues That America Retreating Has Failed "Every Time It Has Been Tried." (YouTube, 9/16/15)



(YouTube, 9/16/15)

RUBIO DEFENDED AND ARGUED IN FAVOR OF THE IRAQ WAR

In 2010, Rubio Defended The Iraq War And Argued That The United States Was Better Off For Having Done So

In October 2010, Rubio Defended The Iraq War And Argued That The United States Was Better Off For Having Done So. " SMITH: Mr. Rubio, is -- is America safer and better off for having gone to war in Iraq? RUBIO: I think the answer ultimately is yes. First of all, the world is better off because Saddam Hussein is no longer in charge in Iraq. And I think we have to remind ourselves of that, is that the world is a better and safer place because Saddam Hussein no longer is in charge of that country. Let's understand one thing. Right now, we are worried about Iran possessing a nuclear weapon. Well, if Saddam Hussein was still there, and you know the relationship and the long history between Iraq and Iran, you'd have two nations in a full-blown arms war, the way you've seen, for example, between Pakistan and India. So the world is a better and safer place, and not to mention the Iraqi people are better off than they were under Saddam Hussein. There's no doubt that Iraq has a long way to go. You know, there are a lot of issues that that society and that that nation-state faces. But it is better off today than it was when Saddam Hussein..." (CNN, 10/24/10)

In 2015, Rubio Reiterated That He Did Not Think It Was A Mistake To Go To War In Iraq

In 2015, Rubio Reiterated That He Did Not Think It Was A Mistake To Go To War In Iraq. "As Rubio moved toward his presidential bid in April, he has tried to establish himself as the hawkish foreign policy expert. He has called for increased military funding and building up weapons, and he often talks about threats faced from Iran and from ISIS. In March as a deadline approached on the nuclear deal with Iran, Rubio talked about both Iran and Iraq on Fox News'

The Five when asked, "Was it a mistake to go to war to Iraq?" "No, I don't believe it was. The world is a better place because Saddam Hussein doesn't run Iraq," he said, arguing that Iraq could have pursued a weapon. "So I think, hindsight is always 20/20, but we don't know what the world would look like if Saddam Hussein was still there.'" (Politifact, 5/18/15)

In 2014, Rubio Noted He Would "Absolutely" Advocate For A Permanent U.S. Presence In Iraq and The Middle East And Called For U.S. Troops On The Ground To Defeat ISIS

In 2014, Rubio Noted He Would "Absolutely" Advocate For A Permanent U.S. Presence In Iraq and The Middle East And Called For U.S. Troops On The Ground To Defeat ISIS. "If Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) ever became president, would he advocate for a permanent U.S. troop presence in the Middle East? "Absolutely," he told Neil Cavuto this afternoon on "Your World." Rubio explained that the bin Laden mission would have been impossible without a U.S. troop mission in Afghanistan. He also said that having U.S. troops on the ground in Iraq could have prevented the advance of ISIS. Rubio also called for boots on the ground, saying that ISIS can be degraded through airstrikes, but cannot be defeated through strikes alone." (Fox News, 9/23/14)

In 2015, Rubio Called For Continued Political Interventions In Iraq

In 2015, Rubio Called For Continued Political Interventions In Iraq, Noting "It Is Imperative That We Use All Of The Leverage At America's Disposal To Negotiate A Power-Sharing Deal That Will Give Predominantly Sunni Provinces, Such As Anbar And Nineveh, Assurances That Their Rights Will Be Respected By Baghdad Even After The Defeat Of The Islamic State." "The biggest impediment to such a strategy is the administration's ill-considered and unreciprocated outreach to Iran. Our allies are alarmed that the president plans to grant Iran generous sanctions relief, potentially worth hundreds of billions of dollars, without demanding the dismantlement of its nuclear program. Their concerns are only magnified because our failure to do more to stop the jihadis rampaging across Iraq and Syria has allowed Iran to claim the lead role in the anti-Islamic State coalition. Iranian-backed militias are at the forefront of the fight in both Syria and Iraq — a development that leads many Sunnis to conclude that the Islamic State and al-Nusra Front, al Qaeda's official affiliate in Syria, are the lesser evil. We must make clear that the United States does not have a secret plan (as many conspiracy theorists in the Middle East imagine) to trade Islamic State domination of Iraq and Syria for Iranian domination. In Iraq, it is imperative that we use all of the leverage at America's disposal to negotiate a power-sharing deal that will give predominantly Sunni provinces, such as Anbar and Nineveh, assurances that their rights will be respected by Baghdad even after the defeat of the Islamic State. Sunnis do not want to risk a repeat of the fiasco that occurred when the Obama administration pulled out all U.S. combat troops in 2011. Reaching such a deal will require sending high-level American representatives to Baghdad, on par with the dynamic team of Gen. David Petraeus, now retired, and then-U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker, both of whom oversaw the "surge" in 2007. Even now, Washington still has leverage in Iraq, as the administration showed by helping to oust the sectarian Nouri al-Maliki as prime minister last year. But ever since then, a distracted White House has not been exercising our influence to the maximum extent possible." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

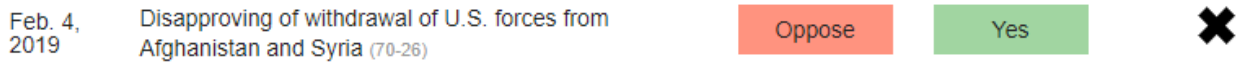
IN THE SENATE, RUBIO SIGNALED AN OPPOSITION TO THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO WITHDRAWAL TROOPS FROM AFGHANISTAN AND SYRIA

In 2019, Rubio Supported Legislation That Expressed The Sense Of The Senate That The United States Faces Continuing Threats From Terrorist Groups Operating In Syria And Afghanistan

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration

In 2019, Rubio Voted Yea On Amendment 65 To S 1, Which Expressed The Sense Of The Senate That The United States Faces Continuing Threats From Terrorist Groups Operating In Syria And Afghanistan. (Amdt 65 To S 1, Passed (70 - 26), United States Senate, 2/4/19, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)



("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

RUBIO GENERALLY SUPPORTED MILITARY INTERVENTION IN SYRIA

2015: "To Defeat ISIS, Rubio Would Expand Air Strikes Against The Group And Work To Build A Stronger Multinational Coalition"

2015: "To Defeat ISIS, Rubio Would Expand Air Strikes Against The Group And Work To Build A Stronger Multinational Coalition." "To defeat ISIS, Rubio would expand air strikes against the group and work to build a stronger multinational coalition. He believes that both ISIS and the Al-Assad government pose threats to stability in the region. The Florida senator would provide arms directly to tribal and Kurdish forces in Iraq." (PBS, 4/13/15)

In 2017, "Rubio, A Longtime Hawk On Syria, Praised The US Airstrike On A Syrian Airfield Days After A Chemical Attack On Innocents Attributed To Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad"

In 2017, "Sen. Marco Rubio, A Longtime Hawk On Syria, Praised The US Airstrike On A Syrian Airfield Days After A Chemical Attack On Innocents Attributed To Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad." "Sen. Marco Rubio, a longtime hawk on Syria, praised the US airstrike on a Syrian airfield days after a chemical attack on innocents attributed to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. Following news that President Donald Trump had green-lit the US action, Rubio said Thursday on CNN's "Anderson Cooper 360" that Russia could not fairly

criticize the military strike because Russia backed Assad – who is accused of perpetrating the attack on his own people. "They have no standing to say anything about this," Rubio said of the Russians. He said that the move doesn't just send a message, but amounts to a "significant degrading" of Assad's ability to carry out chemical attacks. "This is the area from which those chemical attacks were launched," Rubio said. "It's the place you were going to see future attacks come from, particularly targeting innocent civilians." Earlier in the night, Rubio tweeted a photo of a man holding two babies and wrote, "Something should happen." Rubio also quoted a passage from the Bible ahead of the strikes, writing, "'Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished' Proverbs 11:21 #SyriaChemicalAttack" Speaking Friday on CNN's "New Day," Rubio said the strike was in "our national interest" because of American troops in the area whom Assad could potentially target in a similar chemical weapons attack. "If Assad is willing to use that gas against civilians, why would he not be willing to use it against Americans?" Rubio said. Earlier, a deputy Russian UN ambassador had warned of "negative consequences" Thursday if the US decided to use military force in Syria." (CNN, 4/7/17)

Rubio, In 2015: "The United States Should Work With Our Allies, Both Arab And European, To Impose A No-Fly Zone Over Parts Of Syria That Will Prevent Assad's Air Force From Dropping Barrel Bombs And Chlorine Gas Bombs On Civilian Neighborhoods"

Rubio, In 2015: "The United States Should Work With Our Allies, Both Arab And European, To Impose A No-Fly Zone Over Parts Of Syria That Will Prevent Assad's Air Force From Dropping Barrel Bombs And Chlorine Gas Bombs On Civilian Neighborhoods." "The United States should work with our allies, both Arab and European, to impose a no-fly zone over parts of Syria that will prevent Assad's air force from dropping barrel bombs and chlorine gas bombs on civilian neighborhoods. We should also work with our allies, particularly with neighboring states such as Jordan and Turkey, to set up safe zones in border regions of Syria, where the moderate opposition can begin to govern free of the threat of regime (or Islamic State) attacks." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

Rubio, In 2015: "As I Have Argued For Years, The United States Should Do More To Train And Support Anti-Islamic State Fighters In Both Iraq And Syria"

Rubio, In 2015: "As I Have Argued For Years, The United States Should Do More To Train And Support Anti-Islamic State Fighters In Both Iraq And Syria." "As I have argued for years, the United States should do more to train and support anti-Islamic State fighters in both Iraq and Syria. I warned well before jihadis ever filled the void caused by the conflict in Syria that we needed to try to identify moderate members of the opposition that we could train and equip to take on Assad." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

Rubio, In 2015: "We Need, For Example, To Lift The Self-Defeating Restrictions That Prevent U.S. Personnel From Calling In Airstrikes To Support Iraqi Military Operations And Embedding With The Units They Have Trained"

Rubio, In 2015: "We Need, For Example, To Lift The Self-Defeating Restrictions That Prevent U.S. Personnel From Calling In Airstrikes To Support Iraqi Military Operations

And Embedding With The Units They Have Trained." "Years later, the Obama administration has failed to do this effectively in Syria and is struggling to carry out training of anti-Islamic State forces in Iraq. We need, for example, to lift the self-defeating restrictions that prevent U.S. personnel from calling in airstrikes to support Iraqi military operations and embedding with the units they have trained. To enable military success against the Islamic State, we must first have in place a political strategy to mobilize significant Sunni Arab opposition to this terrorist group, both within Syria and Iraq and in the broader region." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

Rubio, In 2015: "We Should Begin Intensive Planning Now, In Cooperation With Allies And Multilateral Organizations, To Prepare For A Post-War Settlement In Syria Once Assad Is Overthrown — As Eventually He Will Be"

Rubio, In 2015: "We Should Begin Intensive Planning Now, In Cooperation With Allies And Multilateral Organizations, To Prepare For A Post-War Settlement In Syria Once Assad Is Overthrown — As Eventually He Will Be." "Finally, we should begin intensive planning now, in cooperation with allies and multilateral organizations, to prepare for a post-war settlement in Syria once Assad is overthrown — as eventually he will be. This is the kind of planning that the Obama administration failed to do in Libya and that the Bush administration failed to do in Iraq — both failures for which we continue to pay a heavy price. Even with these actions, the ongoing failure to fully address the threat posed by the Islamic State and by the Assad regime's brutal hold on power will present challenges to U.S. security for decades to come. From the tens of thousands of traumatized children in refugee camps throughout the region to the sexual violence and cleansing of religious minorities, the conflict in Syria has metastasized into a regional nightmare with profound implications for future generations in the Middle East and overseas. As yet another August comes and goes in this conflict that now has generational implications for global security, U.S. strategy remains an incoherent mess. Reversing the gains that both Iran and the Islamic State have made as they have sought to fill the void left by American disengagement will be difficult. Ending Assad's reign of terror once and for all will be, too. And both will be much more difficult than if we had acted at the outset of the civil war in Syria, as some of us urged President Obama and then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. But it is still not impossible." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

RUBIO HAS INDICATED HE SUPPORTS POTENTIAL MILITARY INTERVENTION IN IRAN

In 2012, "Rubio Made Clear That Military Action Should Be On The Table In Iran"

In 2012, "Rubio Made Clear That Military Action Should Be On The Table In Iran." "Rubio said he believes foreign policy should be "non-partisan as much as possible." But for a war-weary country, further American involvement anywhere in the country can be a contentious issue. The senator said part of the problem in Afghanistan is that the U.S. has not made a long-term commitment to the country, and some Afghans fear the prospects of cooperating with allie forces if Taliban were to rule again after the coalition leaves the country. And Rubio made clear that military action should be on the table in Iran. "We should also be preparing our allies, and

the world, for the reality that unfortunately, if all else fails, preventing a nuclear Iran may, tragically, require a military solution," he said. But, the Tea Party favorite did express his desires to building coalitions before beginning any foreign entanglement. "America has acted unilaterally in the past -– and I believe it should continue to do so in the future -- when necessity requires," he said. "But our preferred option since the U.S. became a global leader has been to work with others to achieve our goals."" (NBC News, 4/25/12)

"Rubio Emphasized That While There Is Still A Window Of Opportunity To Try To Negotiate With An Uncooperative Teheran, That The U.S. Should Prepare For The Worst By Keeping All Options On The Table — Including The Use Of Military Force"

"Rubio Emphasized That While There Is Still A Window Of Opportunity To Try To Negotiate With An Uncooperative Teheran, That The U.S. Should Prepare For The Worst By Keeping All Options On The Table — Including The Use Of Military Force." "The senator also devoted a significant portion of his speech addressing Iran's nuclear ambitions, asserting that the goal of preventing a dominant Iran was so critical that every regional policy that the U.S. adopts should be crafted with this goal in mind. Rubio emphasized that while there is still a window of opportunity to try to negotiate with an uncooperative Teheran, that the U.S. should prepare for the worst by keeping all options on the table — including the use of military force. "Preferably, we can succeed through coercive means short of military force. We should be open to negotiations with Iran," he said. "But always remember that they should not be deemed a success when they only lead to further negotiations. Stronger pressure shouldn't be postponed in the expectation that our forbearance will encourage Iran to act in good faith. Nothing in our experience with Iran suggests that it considers such gestures as anything other than a lack of resolve on our part.'" (*Politico*, 4/25/12)

RUBIO APPEARED TO SUPPORT POTENTIAL MILITARY INTERVENTION IN LIBYA

In 2011, Rubio "Has Been An Outspoken Voice For Intervention In Libya Ever Since The Anti-Government Protesters First Began Clashing With Dictator Muammar El-Qaddafi's Forces Over The Winter"

In 2011, Rubio "Has Been An Outspoken Voice For Intervention In Libya Ever Since The Anti-Government Protesters First Began Clashing With Dictator Muammar El-Qaddafi's Forces Over The Winter." "In hearings, he has been an outspoken voice for intervention in Libya ever since the anti-government protesters first began clashing with dictator Muammar el-Qaddafi's forces over the winter. Rubio aggressively questioned Undersecretary of State William Burns in a March hearing on what he called the Obama administration's "troubling" response to the rising violence within the country. "Is the message that we're sending that when future conflicts arise, the United States' actions are difficult to predict? There may be none? That, basically, the way to repress and bring down resistance like this is to be brutal? What are we going to do if there's a bloodbath after this?" Rubio asked, his voice rising. The freshman senator has toned down his rhetoric since that hearing, opting for a more constructive, statesman-like demeanor in the Foreign Relations Committee. But his policy views have remained aggressive,

and he has continued to advance them with allies -- of any stripe -- that he can find in the chamber." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

"On Libya, That Led Him To Support A Push By Established Hawks Such As Independent Joseph I. Lieberman Of Connecticut And Republican John McCain Of Arizona, As Well As With Foreign Relations Chairman John Kerry Of Massachusetts, For A Resolution To Authorize The Use Of American Military Force"

"On Libya, That Led Him To Support A Push By Established Hawks Such As Independent Joseph I. Lieberman Of Connecticut And Republican John Mccain Of Arizona, As Well As With Foreign Relations Chairman John Kerry Of Massachusetts, For A Resolution To Authorize The Use Of American Military Force." "On Libya, that led him to support a push by established hawks such as independent Joseph I. Lieberman of Connecticut and Republican John McCain of Arizona, as well as with Foreign Relations Chairman John Kerry of Massachusetts, for a resolution to authorize the use of American military force. On the unrest in Syria, where the Obama administration has moved cautiously in pressuring strongman Bashar al-Assad, Rubio teamed with Lieberman to introduce a resolution calling for tougher sanctions on the Assad regime. And he and the self-described "three amigos" -- Lieberman, McCain and South Carolina Republican Lindsey Graham -- have joined together over the last few months to applaud steps the president has taken, while urging further action. "He's good to work with, he's smart, he's very articulate" and "he has strong ideals," Lieberman says of Rubio, whom he first got to know during visits to Florida when Rubio was in the state legislature." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

- **Rubio, In June 2011: "We Have An Unequivocal National Interest In Ensuring Moammar Gadhafi's Regime Is Defeated As Quickly As Possible. To Guarantee The Mission's Success, It Is Vital That The U.S. Officially Recognize The Transitional National Council, Provide Additional Resources To Support The Council, And Intensify Strike Operations To Target The Gadhafi Regime."** "The deepening confrontation between the White House and Congress over Libya is both counterproductive and unnecessary. Whatever one thinks about the constitutional questions surrounding the War Powers Resolution, or the wisdom of the original decision to intervene in Libya three months ago, the strategic reality is that our nation is now engaged in a fight. It will either end in the demise of a brutal anti-American dictator, or in his victory over us and our allies. The latter would be an extremely harmful outcome for the U.S. For this reason, we have an unequivocal national interest in ensuring Moammar Gadhafi's regime is defeated as quickly as possible. To guarantee the mission's success, it is vital that the U.S. officially recognize the Transitional National Council, provide additional resources to support the council, and intensify strike operations to target the Gadhafi regime. Yet rather than push the Obama administration to do what is necessary to bring this conflict to a successful conclusion, members of Congress are pushing to restrict our military campaign. If we withdraw from our air war over Libya, it will lengthen the conflict, increase its cost to American taxpayers, and raise doubts about U.S. leadership among friends and foes alike. If the U.S. were to withdraw from operations against the regime in Tripoli, the coalition would quickly unravel. Gadhafi would emerge triumphant, even more dangerous and determined to seek his revenge through terrorism

against the countries in NATO and the Arab League that tried and failed to overthrow him. U.S. withdrawal would also mean a bloodbath inside Libya, as Gadhafi unleashes unspeakable horrors against the Libyan people who sought their freedom. And it would have ripple effects across the Middle East: Pro-democracy movements from Iran to Syria would conclude that the U.S. had abandoned them, and dictators would be emboldened. American disengagement would also inflict irreparable damage on the NATO alliance, a pillar of U.S. security in which we have a vital national interest. Having walked out on our European allies in the middle of a battle, we can expect them to do the same to us in Afghanistan. Some may claim the current congressional proposals to curtail operations in Libya are largely symbolic. Since the proposals are unlikely to become law, their backers insist they are simply intended to "send a message" to the White House. The problem is that these measures also send a message to Gadhafi and those around him. That message? The coalition is breaking and his regime might yet persevere. Although we know this is not the intent of our colleagues' actions, it risks being their effect. There is a better way forward. For those on Capitol Hill who think the president requires congressional authorization to continue operations in Libya, there is a simple solution: Congress can and should pass a resolution explicitly backing these activities. It is precisely for this reason that we support a Senate resolution, put forward by Sen. John McCain (R., Ariz.), to do this." (Joe Lieberman And Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, 6/23/11)

- **Previously, In April 2011, "Freshman Senator Marco Rubio Of Florida Sent A Letter To The Democratic And Republican Leaders Of The Senate, Harry Reid And Mitch Mcconnell, Asking "Support For Bringing A Bi-Partisan Resolution To The Senate Floor Authorizing The President's Decision To Participate In Allied Military Action In Libya."** "The resolution is non-binding and, even if passed, would not become law. Instead, a Senate resolution is a sign of support—or, rather, an expression of where the Senate stands on a particular issue. "Our hope would be that there would be strong support on both sides of the aisle," a spokesman from Cornyn's office told me. The Texas senator passed the resolution around to members of Congress yesterday, though it is still too early to tell what sort of support the resolution might have from his colleagues. Last week, freshman senator Marco Rubio of Florida sent a letter to the Democratic and Republican leaders of the Senate, Harry Reid and Mitch McConnell, asking "support for bringing a bi-partisan resolution to the Senate floor authorizing the President's decision to participate in allied military action in Libya." "Furthermore," Rubio wrote, "this resolution should also state that removing Muammar Qaddafi from power is in our national interest and therefore should authorize the President to accomplish this goal. To that end, the resolution should urge the President to immediately recognize the Interim Transitional National Council as the legitimate government in Libya.'" (*The Weekly Standard*, 4/5/11)

In 2011, Rubio Co-Authored An Op-Ed With John McCain And Others Calling For The United States To Increase Its Involvement In Libya And Help Transition The Country To A Democracy

In 2011, Rubio Co-Authored An Op-Ed With John McCain And Others Calling For The United States To Increase Its Involvement In Libya And Help Transition The Country To A Democracy. "The most meaningful support the U.S. could provide at this time is to help

Libya care for its many wounded citizens. From our visit to the hospital, it is clear that Libya does not have the capacity to care for such a large number of wounded, many requiring advanced treatment and prosthetics. Indeed, this is such a priority that the TNC told us they would be willing to draw on the more than $150 billion in Libya's frozen assets to reimburse the U.S. for the costs of this humanitarian assistance. To this end, we should consider deploying a hospital ship, such as the USNS Comfort, to Libya or Malta. Another option could be to transport Libyans in need of advanced care to U.S. medical facilities in Europe. We can also help Libya lay the foundation for sustainable security. This requires safeguarding the immense stockpiles of weapons and dangerous materials that exist across the country. It also requires bringing Libya's many militias under the TNC's civilian authority, and working toward their demobilization, disarmament and reintegration into Libyan society. We and our allies should encourage this peaceful process as much as we can, and oppose external efforts to pick winners who would advance factional or ideological interests through force. Many Libyans recognize that they need a new civilian-led national army and police force. The TNC has asked the U.S., perhaps together with our Arab partners, to help train this new security force. American involvement in a small training mission could help Libya build a professional security force that contributes to national unity and forms the basis of our future security cooperation. Here, too, the TNC offered to reimburse the costs of our efforts. American support is also important for Libya's democratic transition. The TNC wants to cooperate with the U.S., especially with our nongovernmental organizations, in the monitoring of national elections (which could be held soon), the drafting of a constitution, and the development of civil society. Another area where we can play a vital role is in helping Libya reform its justice system. That the TNC invited us into al-Jdeida prison is evidence of its commitment to treating detainees humanely, with maximum transparency. Yet we continue to hear credible reports that Libyan militias are mistreating and taking revenge against detainees, especially African migrants. American assistance could help Libyans achieve their goal of creating a transparent and accountable system to deliver equal justice. Finally, now is the time to expand our economic ties with Libya and help the Libyan people take part in a more open regional economic order. This could include reactivating and building upon our existing Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, working toward the goal of a bilateral free trade agreement, helping Libya meet the requirements for accession to the World Trade Organization, and gradually turning the "no-fly zone" over Libya into a "pro-fly zone" that fosters civilian air travel. Americans have had their disagreements over the U.S. intervention in Libya, but the sources of those disagreements are now fading into history. What remains is an enormous opportunity for the U.S. to build a partnership with a democratic and pro-American Libya that contributes to the expansion of security, prosperity and freedom across a pivotal region at a time of revolutionary change. This is a worthy goal that should unite Democrats and Republicans, Congress and the president, America and our allies. Libyans will build their own nation. But they desire and deserve our support. And it is in our interest to help them succeed." (Marco Rubio, John McCain, et al., Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 10/7/11)

MEDIA: RUBIO "IS THE RARE REPUBLICAN WHO PUBLICLY DEFENDS U.S. FOREIGN AID SPENDING"

Congressional Quarterly: Rubio "Is The Rare Republican Who Publicly Defends U.S. Foreign Aid Spending"

Rubio "Is The Rare Republican Who Publicly Defends U.S. Foreign Aid Spending." "One area where Rubio has diverged drastically from his fellow tea party freshmen is on spending on international affairs. Funding for aid to the developing world is a particularly easy target for budget cutters on Capitol Hill these days. The argument offered by many fiscal conservatives is that, given the U.S. debt crisis, America simply can't afford to spend billions of dollars on programs to combat world hunger, food shortages or direct aid to foreign countries. Rubio, however, is the rare Republican who publicly defends U.S. foreign aid spending. In an online video response to a constituent question, Rubio laid out his case. The United States has to "be more careful about how we spend foreign aid," Rubio acknowledged, but "if it's done right, it spreads America's influence around the world in a positive way." "I think sometimes, in the press and in the minds of many, our foreign aid is exaggerated. It really is a miniscule part of our overall budget. And it's not the reason why we have this growing debt in America," he said, instead pointing to entitlement programs." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

RUBIO HAS UNDERSCORED HIS SUPPORT FOR NATO AND WILLINGNESS FOR THE U.S. TO GO TO WAR ON BEHALF OF NATO

In 2015, Rubio Has Underscored His Support For NATO And Indicated He Would Be Willing To Commit The United States To War With Russia In Order To Defend NATO Members Such As Turkey

In 2015, Rubio Has Underscored His Support For NATO And Indicated He Would Be Willing To Commit The United States To War With Russia In Order To Defend NATO Members Such As Turkey. "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Florida) argued that the US must take a hawkish response to any Russian aggression against Turkey after the country downed a Russian warplane Tuesday. The Republican presidential candidate discussed what he would do to confront Russian President Vladimir Putin during a Fox news interview. "Although Vladimir Putin is a gangster and a criminal, he is also geopolitical actor who makes decisions on a cost-benefit analysis," Rubio said. Earlier in the day, Turkish fighter jets shot down a Russian warplane near the Syrian border for allegedly violating Turkish airspace and ignoring repeated warnings. Putin responded by saying his country's plane was actually in Syrian airspace, where Russia is supposedly conducting airstrikes against the Islamic State group. Putin warned of "serious consequences" for Turkey. But Rubio argued that the US should make clear that it would go to war to defend Turkey, which is a member of the NATO alliance. If the US did that, Rubio said he would "hope" and expect that Russia would not confront NATO." (Business Insider, 11/24/15)

RUBIO HAS BACKED PROPOSALS TO INCREASE DEFENSE SPENDING

Rubio Has Backed Proposals To Increase Defense Spending Over 10 Years By $1 Trillion

Rubio Has Backed Proposals To Increase Defense Spending Over 10 Years By $1 Trillion. "Rubio has backed more defense spending since at least March 2015, when he and U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., introduced a budget amendment to increase the Pentagon's budget. At the time, Rubio argued that adjusted for inflation, defense spending had declined by 21 percent since 2010 -- a claim PolitiFact National rated Mostly True. Rubio's amendment proposed restoring defense spending levels to what had been proposed in the spring of 2011, for fiscal 2012 going forward, by then-Defense Secretary Robert Gates. Gates' proposal was prior to spending limits that were imposed by the Budget Control Act of 2011, which became law in the summer of 2011. Returning to the so-called 2012 proposed spending levels would add $1 trillion in defense spending over 10 years, Benjamin Friedman, a defense research fellow at the liberatrian Cato Institute, told us. That is also the estimate made in a July 2015 report from the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service. The morning after the Milwaukee debate, Rubio was asked in a Fox News interview: "So, where are you going to get the trillion dollars from that Rand Paul says we shouldn't be spending?" Rubio didn't address the figure, saying: "First of all, before we fund anything, the federal government should be fully funding national security." But he has made references to the $1 trillion cost in the past. In a September 2014 speech, Rubio said he agreed with a recommendation by the bipartisan National Defense Panel to return to the 2012-level spending, "which we are on track to be around $1 trillion short of through fiscal year 2022." And on his campaign website, Rubio says he would restore defense spending to the 2012 level, "and begin to undo the damage caused by $1 trillion in indiscriminate defense cuts.'" (Politifact, 11/12/15)

RUBIO'S QUESTIONABLE CONSERVATISM (POLICY)

RUBIO PREVIOUSLY INDICATED SUPPORT FOR A NATIONAL SALES TAX / 'FAIR TAX'

In 2007, Rubio Cited Mike Huckabee's Support Of Implementing A National Sales Tax Via The Fair Tax Proposal As A Reason For Endorsing Him

Rubio Noted "I Like The Concept. I Think There Has To Be Deeper Discussion About How It's Applied"

In 2007, Rubio Cited Mike Huckabee's Support Of Implementing A National Sales Tax Via The Fair Tax Proposal As A Reason For Endorsing Him; Rubio Noted "I Like The Concept. I Think There Has To Be Deeper Discussion About How It's Applied."
"Republican presidential contender Mike Huckabee's calm demeanor and staunch anti-abortion stance were just a few of the reasons he picked up House Speaker Marco Rubio's endorsement, the West Miami Republican said Wednesday after a speech at The Breakers hotel in Palm Beach. Huckabee's embrace of a national retail sales tax has riled some conservatives and business groups, but only added to his appeal to Rubio, who described the former Arkansas governor as a visionary willing to swim against the political tide. "I like the concept. I think there has to be deeper discussion about how it's applied," Rubio said of Huckabee's tax stance. Huckabee supports the so-called "FairTax," a type of national retail sales tax that he claims would abolish the Internal Revenue Service and federal income and payroll taxes. The plan would essentially replace the federal tax code with a national tax on consumption. It's a retail tax much like what most states already have in place. "The notion that a consumption tax is fairer than an income tax or a property tax is something that I believe," said Rubio, who last year pushed unsuccessfully for the Legislature to abolish all state property taxes in lieu of a major hike in sales taxes. Rubio said he personally met several times with each of the leading Republican presidential contenders but consistently felt the most aligned with the former Arkansas governor. "He's the most conservative candidate in the race, and he gives Reagan Republicans like myself the best chance to win the nomination," Rubio said. "Obviously, I don't have anything against any of the candidates. I admire something about all of them. But to me, he's the one that I feel the most comfortable with on the social issues, as well as on the fiscal and other issues." Rubio's endorsement, which was announced formally in Miami on Monday, is seen as key to helping Huckabee woo Florida Hispanic and conservative voters. Rubio, a conservative Republican, is the state's first Cuban-American House speaker." (*Sun Sentinel*, 12/12/07)

RUBIO SUPPORTED INCREASING THE FLORIDA STATE SALES TAX (IN EXCHANGE FOR PROPERTY TAX ELIMINATION)

In 2006 And 2007, Rubio Proposed A "Plan To Abolish Property Taxes On Primary Residences In Exchange For A 2.5 Percent Increase In The State's 6 Percent Sales Tax, Making Florida's The Highest Statewide Rate In The Nation"; The Plan Was Fiercely Opposed By Businesses "Warning The High Sales Tax Would Devastate Their Bottom Line While Doing Nothing To Cut Property Taxes"

In 2006 And 2007, Rubio Proposed A "Plan To Abolish Property Taxes On Primary Residences In Exchange For A 2.5 Percent Increase In The State's 6 Percent Sales Tax, Making Florida's The Highest Statewide Rate In The Nation"; The Plan Was Fiercely Opposed By Businesses "Warning The High Sales Tax Would Devastate Their Bottom Line While Doing Nothing To Cut Property Taxes." "House Speaker Marco Rubio looks poised to begin a new chapter in his saga to overhaul Florida's property-tax system. But this time, he'll include a new cast of characters, a coterie of business groups and trade associations. Rubio's courting of business is a sharp departure from last year, when most of this powerful lobby first learned about his dramatic tax-swap idea by skimming through his book, 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future. Idea 96 was his plan to abolish property taxes on primary residences in exchange for a 2.5 percent increase in the state's 6 percent sales tax, making Florida's the highest statewide rate in the nation. Businesses howled, warning the high sales tax would devastate their bottom line while doing nothing to cut property taxes. The idea eventually failed in the Legislature. The speaker, though, still would like to see property taxes go away. "There is no way to fairly and affordably tax home ownership. There's no way to do it," Rubio, R-West Miami, said last week. But he also is a realist. He has staked his still-unclear political future on passage of a proposed constitutional amendment creating a new homestead superexemption and needs the campaign dollars of business groups to rally public support behind it on Jan. 29. Both sides last week appeared ready to deal. Businesses generally shrug at a bigger homestead exemption, since there's nothing in it for them. But they do want to play nice with Rubio, who can help them next year in passing legislation to ease property taxes on businesses. They already have a menu of ideas. "There's so much more to do," Rubio echoed last week. Gov. Charlie Crist and Rubio are often at odds — over gambling, property insurance, even Seminoles versus Gators. But Crist, too, is courting businesses in his own bid to pump up prospects for the January amendment." (*Orlando Sentinel*, 9/23/07)

"The Republican-Led Senate Blasted It As The Biggest Tax Increase In Florida's History, Democrats Blasted It As A Regressive Blow To The Poor. Rubio Muscled It Through The House On A Mostly Party-Line Vote, But That Was As Far As It Would Go"

"The Republican-Led Senate Blasted It As The Biggest Tax Increase In Florida's History, Democrats Blasted It As A Regressive Blow To The Poor. Rubio Muscled It Through The House On A Mostly Party-Line Vote, But That Was As Far As It Would Go." "A soaring real estate market resulted in big bills for many and giant inequities with those who had long

enjoyed a constitutional assessment cap. At the start of the 2007 legislative session, Rubio proposed eliminating property taxes on primary homes in favor of a 2.5 cent sales tax increase. The Republican-led Senate blasted it as the biggest tax increase in Florida's history, Democrats blasted it as a regressive blow to the poor. Rubio muscled it through the House on a mostly party-line vote, but that was as far as it would go. "Marco's idea was a solid one that would have jump-started the economy," Bush said in an interview. "Back in the day, a lot of good ideas died in the Florida Senate. Believe me, I know. In addition, Gov. Crist wasn't very helpful as well." Rubio scores his tenure a success — many of the 100 Ideas became law — because it was about issues and ideas. "People used to view the political process as this competition between the House and Senate, who got more of what they wanted. I never viewed it that way." In fact, Rubio won even by losing. The property tax proposal put him on the national map, gaining media exposure and attention from conservative lions like Grover Norquist and Newt Gingrich. He shrewdly used the issue to travel the state, exposing himself to GOP activists and a growing antigovernment mood that later became the tea party." (*Miami Herald*, 10/9/10)

"The Change Would Not Only Hurt The Poorest Floridians But Also Bankrupt Cities, Many Experts Warned"

"The Change Would Not Only Hurt The Poorest Floridians But Also Bankrupt Cities, Many Experts Warned." "His marquee proposal as speaker, introduced early in 2007, was to all but eliminate property taxes, the largest source of revenue for every municipal government in the state. To replace that cash, Rubio wanted to hike the sales tax. The change would not only hurt the poorest Floridians but also bankrupt cities, many experts warned. The proposal made it to the House floor in 2007 but could never find traction in the more moderate Senate." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

VIDEO: Jeb Bush Noted His Support For Rubio's 2007 Proposal To "Allow Floridians To Eliminate Their Property Taxes In Exchange For Two Penny Increase In Sales Tax"

VIDEO: Jeb Bush Noted His Support For Rubio's 2007 Proposal To "Allow Floridians To Eliminate Their Property Taxes In Exchange For Two Penny Increase In Sales Tax." (YouTube, 3/27/10)

- **NOTE:** *The video, posted by Rubio himself, offers the following caption: "In 2007, Marco Rubio proposed a bold plan to allow Floridians to eliminate their property taxes in exchange for two penny increase in sales tax. Charlie Crist blocked the plan, then endorsed a similar plan from the Taxation and Budget Review Commission, and now calls it a "tax increase." See what Jeb Bush said about the plan that earned Marco Rubio the label "America's most pro-taxpayer legislator" from Americans for Tax Reform."*



(YouTube, 3/27/10)

RUBIO HAS BEEN GENERALLY CRITICAL OF ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS AND HAS CALLED FOR CUTS TO MEDICARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY

In A 2011 Speech At The Reagan Presidential Library, Rubio Argued Entitlement Programs Such As Social Security And Medicare Have "Weakened Us As A People"

In A 2011 Speech At The Reagan Presidential Library, Rubio Argued Entitlement Programs Such As Social Security And Medicare Have "Weakened Us As A People." "Murphy was referring to a speech Rubio gave at the Ronald Reagan presidential library in 2011. The quote is accurate, but it did not come in a speech arguing for such drastic reforms to Social Security and Medicare as Murphy described. During his speech, Rubio said Democrats and Republicans created programs and levels of spending that -- while well intentioned -- were doomed to fail from the start. "These programs actually weakened us as a people. You see, almost in forever, it was institutions and society that assumed the role of taking care of one another. If someone was sick in your family, you took care of them. If a neighbor met misfortune, you took care of them. You saved for your retirement and your future because you had to." "We took these things upon ourselves and our communities and our families and our homes and our churches and our synagogues. But all that changed when the government began to assume those responsibilities. All of the sudden, for an increasing number of people in our nation, it was no longer necessary to worry about saving for security because that was the government's job. ... "The other thing is that we built a government and its programs without any account whatsoever for how we were going to pay for it. There was not thought given into how this was going to be sustained." A Rubio spokesman pointed us to the section in which Rubio said the programs didn't take into account future costs. But Rubio did say that such programs

"weakened" Americans. Rubio has long called for reforming Social Security and Medicare. In Florida, about 21 percent of Florida's population -- about 3.9 million people -- receive Social Security benefits. About 4 million Floridians use Medicare for health insurance. The programs accounted for 41 percent of federal program expenditures in fiscal year 2015. The programs face long-term financing shortfalls, leading program trustees and federal budget experts to call for action by Congress. Rubio has said that he favors raising the retirement age for people such as himself in their 40s but not for current retirees or those who will retire soon." (PolitiFact, 10/27/16)

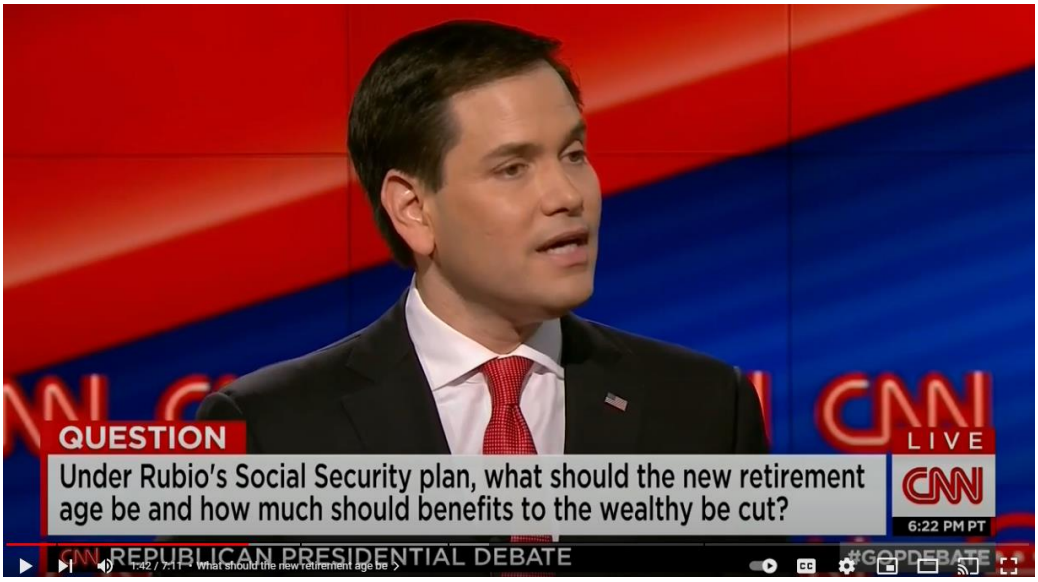
- **NOTE:** *The 2011 speech during which Rubio accused entitlement programs of weakening Americans can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/.*



(YouTube, 8/23/11)

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Notes That He Would Raise The Retirement Age For Younger Workers (Gradual Increase From 67 To 70), Cut Social Security Benefits For High Earners, And Transition Medicare To An Apparent Voucher System

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Notes That He Would Raise The Retirement Age For Younger Workers (Gradual Increase From 67 To 70), Cut Social Security Benefits For High Earners, And Transition Medicare To An Apparent Voucher System. (YouTube, 3/10/16)

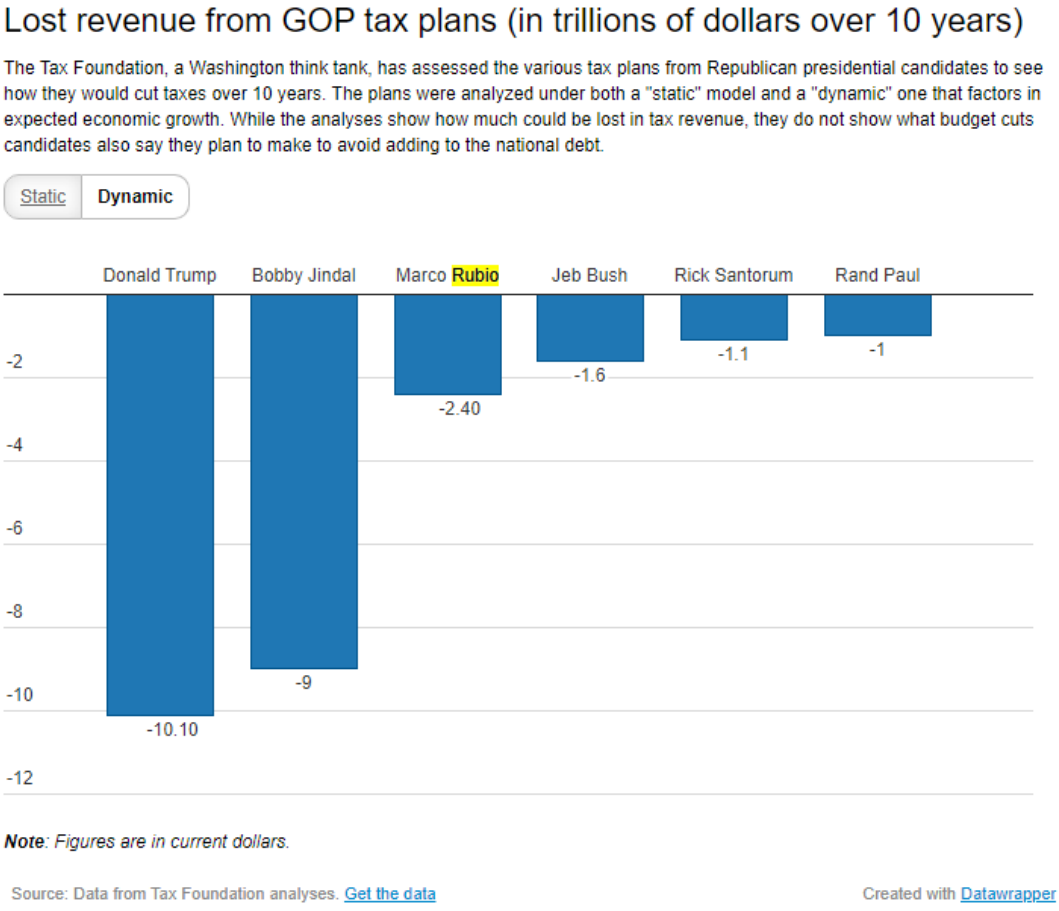

QUESTION
Under Rubio's Social Security plan, what should the new retirement age be and how much should benefits to the wealthy be cut?
LIVE
CNN
6:22 PM PT
REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

(YouTube, 3/10/16)

In 2015, Dynamic Scoring Of Rubio's Tax Plan, Taking Economic Growth Into Account, Indicated That Rubio Would Need To Cut $2.4 Trillion In Government Spending For It To Be Revenue Neutral; Rubio Noted He Would Reform Medicare And Social Security To Actually Address The Debt Through His Plan

In 2015, Dynamic Scoring Of Rubio's Tax Plan, Taking Economic Growth Into Account, Indicated That Rubio Would Need To Cut $2.4 Trillion In Government Spending For It To Be Revenue Neutral; Rubio Noted He Would Reform Medicare And Social Security To Actually Address The Debt Through His Plan. "Even under dynamic scoring – thus taking into account economic growth it spurs – Trump's would cost $10.1 trillion, Jindal's $9 trillion, Rubio's $2.4 trillion, Bush's $1.6 trillion, Santorum's $1.1 trillion and Paul's less than $1 trillion, according to Tax Foundation analyses. The Tax Foundation also went forward 35 years to show the impact the Rubio plan would have on the national debt. In the long run, the plan raises revenue, it said. But unless the tax cuts are offset elsewhere in the budget, the proposal would increase the debt in the first eight years – and the "cumulative effect . . . would be significant," it wrote in a March report. Bernstein of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities is more blunt: "The only way to absorb such large revenue losses without incurring significant new debt – debt that would take us way over the ceiling – is to cut spending by the same amount. And that's simply implausible. I certainly haven't heard any cuts of that magnitude – or any magnitude – specified by Rubio." Because of the impact of initial deficits and the extra interest costs they produce, the proposal as offered by Rubio and Lee in March would only return the national debt to its current levels in the year 2040, according to the Tax Foundation analysis. Since introducing the tax plan in March, Rubio has said he plans to attack the broader debt issue by doing two things: Cutting taxes to boost the economy and holding the line on spending. He says that the country needs to change Social Security and Medicare, ensuring that they are protected for the current recipients but acknowledging that the programs will be different for younger generations. On Social Security, for example, he has a list of policy proposals. Some of

those would reduce costs, such as one to gradually increase the Social Security retirement age. But the actual cost to the budget or to individual Americans hasn't been specified. Asked whether his tax plan would result in the debt ceiling needing to be raised, campaign spokeswoman Brooke Sammon said Rubio doesn't think it will need to be." (*McClatchy*, 10/16/15)


Lost revenue from GOP tax plans (in trillions of dollars over 10 years)
The Tax Foundation, a Washington think tank, has assessed the various tax plans from Republican presidential candidates to see how they would cut taxes over 10 years. The plans were analyzed under both a "static" model and a "dynamic" one that factors in expected economic growth. While the analyses show how much could be lost in tax revenue, they do not show what budget cuts candidates also say they plan to make to avoid adding to the national debt.
Static
Dynamic
Donald Trump
Bobby Jindal
Marco Rubio
Jeb Bush
Rick Santorum
Rand Paul
-2
-4
-6
-8
-10
-12
-10.10
-9
-2.40
-1.6
-1.1
-1
Note: Figures are in current dollars.
Source: Data from Tax Foundation analyses. Get the data
Created with Datawrapper

(*McClatchy*, 10/16/15)

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Defended His Proposed Tax Plan While Acknowledging That It Would Also Require Making Cuts To Social Security Benefits For Individuals 25 Years Away From Retirement

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Defended His Proposed Tax Plan While Acknowledging That It Would Also Require Making Cuts To Social Security Benefits For Individuals 25 Years Away From Retirement. (YouTube, 11/3/15)



(YouTube, 11/3/15)

VIDEO: In 2010, Rubio Implicitly Supports Cutting Medicare And Social Security Spending For People Who Are Not Yet Current Beneficiaries Contending That The "Current System That Is In Place Isn't Sustainable Now"

VIDEO: In 2010, Rubio Implicitly Supports Cutting Medicare And Social Security Spending For People Who Are Not Yet Current Beneficiaries Contending That The "Current System That Is In Place Isn't Sustainable Now." (YouTube, 3/20/10)



(YouTube, 3/20/10)

RUBIO OFTEN SUPPORTED PAUL RYAN'S MEDICARE SLASHING PROPOSALS

In 2011, Rubio Noted His Support For The Ryan Medicare Reform Proposal Stating "Rep. Paul Ryan Has Offered A Plan That Would Make No Changes Whatsoever For Anyone Age 55 And Older. I Support It Because, Right Now, It Is The Only Plan Out There That Helps Save Medicare"

In 2011, Rubio Noted His Support For The Ryan Medicare Reform Proposal Stating "Rep. Paul Ryan Has Offered A Plan That Would Make No Changes Whatsoever For Anyone Age 55 And Older. I Support It Because, Right Now, It Is The Only Plan Out There That Helps Save Medicare." "For me, Medicare is not a political talking point. My parents immigrated to the United States in the late 1950s. They worked hard for over 40 years to provide their children the chance to do all the things they themselves could not. But they never made much money. As a result, they retired with precious little in savings. Medicare was and is the only way they could access healthcare. When my father got sick, Medicare paid for his numerous hospital stays. And as he reached the end of life, Medicare allowed him to die with dignity by paying for his hospice care. Like most 80-year-olds, my mother has several age-related ailments. Without the access to quality healthcare that Medicare pays for, I cannot imagine what life would be like for her. America needs Medicare. We need it to continue without any benefit reductions for those like my mother currently in the system. And we need it to survive for my generation and my children's generation. But Medicare is going bankrupt. Anyone who says it is not is simply lying. And anyone who is in favor of doing nothing to deal with this fact is in favor of bankrupting it. Medicare will go broke in as little as nine years. No one likes this news, but it is the undeniable truth. And the sooner we begin to deal with it, the better off we are all going to be. My goals are simple. First, I will not support any plan that changes Medicare for people like my mother who are currently on the plan. We cannot ask seniors to go out and get a job to pay for their healthcare. Second, any solution must solve the problem. We need to save Medicare, not simply delay its bankruptcy. And third, any solution cannot hurt economic growth. At a time of high unemployment, Americans cannot afford to pay more taxes. I will support any serious plan that accomplishes these three things. It does not matter to me if it comes from a Democrat or a Republican. Saving Medicare is more important than partisan politics. Rep. Paul Ryan has offered a plan that would make no changes whatsoever for anyone age 55 and older. I support it because, right now, it is the only plan out there that helps save Medicare. Democrats oppose it. Fine. But, if they have a better way to save Medicare, what are they waiting for to show us? What is their plan to save Medicare?" (Marco Rubio, 5/26/11)

In 2011, Ryan Proposed Implementing A Medicare Premium Support Plan, Oftentimes Described A Privatized Voucher System For Medicare

In 2011, Ryan Proposed Implementing A Medicare Premium Support Plan, Oftentimes Described A Privatized Voucher System For Medicare. "If implemented, the government would no longer pay doctors to treat Medicare beneficiaries. Instead, beneficiaries would buy their own private insurance plans, and the government would give people money to pay to buy health plans from an approved list. Everyone over 55 would be grandfathered into the current

Medicare system. So if you're of Medicare age right now, nothing would change if Ryan's 2011 plan became law tomorrow. That's the crux of what Ryan proposed in 2011-and it was his 2011 plan that Ryan stamped as the signature policy proposal of his time in Congress. It signified the boldest change in his 2011 "Path to Prosperity" budget outline, and Ryan promoted it and defended it relentlessly against critics, including the president. Since then, Ryan and Wyden made major revisions, including a provision like Democrats' "public option," where seniors could opt out of Ryan's most basic change altogether, enrolling in Medicare as a fee-for-service program that would continue to pay directly for care. The Ryan-Wyden plan of December 2011, the basis for what Ryan included in his 2012 budget plan, differs widely in key areas from the spring-2011 iteration of Ryan's plan-the version for which he became known. Critics have called Ryan's 2011 proposal the "end of Medicare as we know it," and that's true. Until now, Medicare has operated as a "fee-for-service" system; under Ryan's plan, it would operate more like a voucher system, although Ryan and his aides have resisted this term. Medicare would cease to pay for health services directly, instead operating as a board that approves a menu of health plans for public sale and doles out predetermined lumps of money to people enrolled in Medicare, to help them buy those plans." (ABC News, 8/11/12)

Rubio, In 2014: "I Propose We Transition To A Premium-Support System Like The Bipartisan One Proposed By Representative Paul Ryan And Senator Ron Wyden, Which Would Give Seniors A Generous But Fixed Amount Of Money With Which To Purchase Health Insurance From Either Medicare Or A Private Provider"

Rubio, In 2014: "I Propose We Transition To A Premium-Support System Like The Bipartisan One Proposed By Representative Paul Ryan And Senator Ron Wyden, Which Would Give Seniors A Generous But Fixed Amount Of Money With Which To Purchase Health Insurance From Either Medicare Or A Private Provider." "Our third and final goal is also the most difficult, and that is saving Medicare. When it comes to a broad and comprehensive Medicare reform plan, we must dramatically expand health-care choices for seniors, spur competition in the marketplace, and extend the solvency of the Medicare trust fund — all while making sure traditional Medicare remains an option. To do so, I propose we transition to a premium-support system like the bipartisan one proposed by Representative Paul Ryan and Senator Ron Wyden, which would give seniors a generous but fixed amount of money with which to purchase health insurance from either Medicare or a private provider. The choice would be theirs to make. All of these ideas would make meaningful strides toward saving Social Security and Medicare for future generations. If ever there was an issue worthy of both parties coming together to act for the good of the country, preserving a secure retirement for 21st-century seniors is that issue. I am eager to work with anyone — Republican or Democrat — who will work in good faith on these reforms. As the trustees report this week has shown us, there can be no excuses for delay. The time for political games has passed. So let's act together today to save these vital programs and ensure a secure retirement for ourselves, our children, and all the generations that follow." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, National Review, 8/5/14)

"Rubio Voted For The Ryan Budgets That Included Reductions In Future Medicare Spending. The Burden Would Have Fallen On Beneficiaries To Pay More Out Of Pocket"

"Rubio Voted For The Ryan Budgets That Included Reductions In Future Medicare Spending. The Burden Would Have Fallen On Beneficiaries To Pay More Out Of Pocket." "As for Medicare, he called for a "premium support system" that would give seniors a fixed amount of money to purchase insurance from Medicare or a private provider. That was similar to a plan by U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis. Rubio voted for the Ryan budgets that included reductions in future Medicare spending. The burden would have fallen on beneficiaries to pay more out of pocket." (Politifact, 9/16/16)

RUBIO SUPPORTED REFORMING MEDICARE INTO A PREMIUM SUPPORT SYSTEM

Rubio, In 2015, On Medicare Reforms: "Future Generations Should Be Transitioned Into A Premium Support System. A Premium Support Model Will Empower Seniors With Choice And Market Competition Just Like Medicare Advantage And Medicare Part D Already Do"

Rubio, In 2015, On Medicare Reforms: "Future Generations Should Be Transitioned Into A Premium Support System. A Premium Support Model Will Empower Seniors With Choice And Market Competition Just Like Medicare Advantage And Medicare Part D Already Do." "Third, I will take up the difficult work of saving and strengthening Medicare and Medicaid by placing them on fiscally-sustainable paths. Without reforms, these programs will eventually run out of money. We must move Medicaid into a per-capita block grant system, preserving funding for its recipients while freeing states from Washington mandates. While current seniors on Medicare, like my mother, should see no changes to the program, future generations should be transitioned into a premium support system. A premium support model will empower seniors with choice and market competition just like Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D already do. While other measures may be necessary to undo the damage done by ObamaCare, I believe these three concepts are the core of a plan to lower costs and put patients and families back in control of their healthcare decisions. Unlike ObamaCare, my reforms will not be forced through Congress in the dark of night without accountability. They will not stretch the Constitution to its breaking point or rely on questionable Supreme Court decisions to survive. And, perhaps most importantly, they will not raise taxes on the American people. ObamaCare's failures should be all the proof Washington needs that the time has come for a new direction—one that empowers the American consumer, expands choices, and reduces the role of the federal government in healthcare. It's time to set a new precedent in Washington by sending a new president to Washington. I believe I have the experience and vision necessary to improve our healthcare system and make this the next American century." (Marco Rubio, *Politico*, 8/17/15)

RUBIO HAS CALLED FOR PRIVATIZING SOCIAL SECURITY AND INCREASING THE RETIREMENT AGE

In 2010, Rubio Called For Increasing The Retirement Age For Social Security And Allowing For Partial Privatization Of The System

In 2010, Rubio Called For Increasing The Retirement Age For Social Security And Allowing For Partial Privatization Of The System. "MARCO RUBIO (R-FL), NOMINEE FOR U.S. SENATE: I do think that the retirement age issue is going to have to be confronted at some point as part of a measure to reform Social Security. The other is giving people the option of taking some of their Social Security money, at least a portion thereof, and investing in an alternative to the Social Security system itself. UNIDENTIFIED MALE: But you've had people that, you know, have made terrible mistakes and lost everything in their 401(k). Wouldn't they do the same thing with Social Security? RUBIO: Potentially. But it's their money." (NBC News, 10/1/10)

In 2010, Rubio Acknowledged Increasing The Retirement Age As A Potential Measure To Rescue Social Security

In 2010, Rubio Acknowledged Increasing The Retirement Age As A Potential Measure To Rescue Social Security. "Which leads to Job One: To get spending under control in Washington, Mr. Rubio would support a constitutional amendment to balance the budget, something Florida already has in place. "I don't care whether Republicans or Democrats are in charge," he says. "If you allow politicians to spend money, they'll do it." He also favors freezing discretionary spending. It's a crude device and ducks the hard work of setting priorities, but "some level of discretionary spending freeze" sends "a powerful signal to our economy and the world that America is serious." Entitlement reform is next. "I know . . . people don't like to talk about it," but Mr. Rubio says the country has to look at changing the Social Security system for people who are 10 or more years away from retirement age. "Privatization of the accounts has come and gone," he says. "There are other alternatives, such as [raising] the retirement age, how you adjust payments in the future, 'need' measures, et cetera." Part and parcel is authoring a new tax code "that creates a competitive environment in America." This means lowering rates on capital gains and reducing the corporate tax rate from 35% to at most 25%, which Mr. Rubio notes is the European average. "Even the president admitted the corporate tax rate is too high," he says. What Mr. Rubio is talking about is an economic confidence agenda to convince Americans and the world that this country isn't incapable of dealing with its debts except through inflation and job-killing tax hikes. "The bottom line," he says, "is that jobs in America are created by people who . . . decide to start a business or expand an existing business." They will do so only if allowed to keep what they earn and don't have a "big target on their back for the government to come after them for higher taxes.'" (*The Wall Street Journal*, 3/13/10)

- **Politifact Has Noted That In 2010 Rubio Supported Gradually Increasing The Retirement Age For His Generation And Younger.** "Specifically, Rubio said in 2010 that he was open to raising the retirement age. "Privatization of the accounts has come and gone, (but) there are other alternatives, such as (raising) the retirement age, how you adjust payments in the future, 'need' measures, et cetera." The retirement age came up

again during a Fox News Sunday debate. Host Chris Wallace asked Rubio if he would raise the retirement age. "I think that has to be on the table. That's got to be part of the solution. The retirement age that gradually increases for people of my generation, I think has got to be part of ...," Rubio said before getting cut off." (Politifact, 9/16/16)

- **"In 2014, Rubio Gave A Speech At The National Press Club In Which He Again Said Inaction Would Lead To Bankruptcy. Rubio Called To "Gradually Increase The Retirement Age For Future Retirees To Account For The Rise In Life Expectancy.'"** "The Senate Majority PAC's ad cites Rubio's comments from 2011. In March 2011, Rubio voted for a House-passed measure to cut about $61 billion from the budget through the end of the year. "While reducing discretionary spending is an important goal, Washington is devoting a disproportionate amount of time to a tiny slice of the budget while ignoring the fact that continued inaction on saving Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid is bankrupting our country," Rubio said in a press release. In 2014, Rubio gave a speech at the National Press Club in which he again said inaction would lead to bankruptcy. Rubio called to "gradually increase the retirement age for future retirees to account for the rise in life expectancy.'" (Politifact, 9/16/16)

- **Rubio, In 2014: "My Second Goal Is To Enact Reforms That Save Social Security For Future Generations. The First Step Is To Gradually Increase The Retirement Age Without Touching It For Retired Americans And Those Nearing Retirement."** "My second goal is to enact reforms that save Social Security for future generations. The first step is to gradually increase the retirement age without touching it for retired Americans and those nearing retirement. We now have a record number of Social Security beneficiaries, and they are living another five to ten years longer than Social Security's earliest recipients. Yet in the past 80 years, Congress has increased the retirement age by only two years." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, National Review, 8/5/14)

- **In 2016, Rubio Again Called For Raising The Retirement Age For Younger Workers.** "While running for president in 2016, Rubio again called for reducing the debt by making changes to Social Security and Medicare. At a March debate in Miami, Rubio reiterated his stance about raising the retirement age but not for those who are 55 or older. "Social Security will go bankrupt, and it will bankrupt the country with it," he said. "So what it will require is people younger, like myself, people that are 30 years away from retirement, to accept that our Social Security is going to work differently than it did for my parents." While running for re-election, Rubio reiterated the same proposals for Social Security. "Marco's own mother relies on Social Security as her sole source of income," Rubio spokesman Michael Ahrens said. "Marco would never do anything to hurt his mother or the millions of Florida seniors who depend on Social Security and Medicare, and he'll continue to fight to strengthen the programs for future generations." His campaign staff also point to previous PolitiFact analysis that said that reining in the spending growth of a program like Medicare wasn't the same as cutting it." (Politifact, 9/16/16)

Politifact Has Noted That In 2010 Rubio Was Open To Essentially Cutting COLA Adjustments For Future Social Security Beneficiaries

Politifact Has Noted That In 2010 Rubio Was Open To Essentially Cutting COLA Adjustments For Future Social Security Beneficiaries. "Rubio was asked if he would support changing cost-of-living adjustments for Social Security beneficiaries. "I think all of that has to be on the table, including the way we index increases in cost of living. All of these issues have to be on the table," Rubio said. "They have to be options that I would be open to." Rubio consistently said that while he wouldn't make changes for those 55 and older, younger people such as himself (he was 39 at the time) would have to accept changes." (Politifact, 9/16/16)

In 2014, Rubio Called For Cutting Initial Social Security Benefits For Higher-Earning Workers

In 2014, Rubio Called For Cutting Initial Social Security Benefits For Higher-Earning Workers. "We also need to look at how we calculate initial benefits. The answer is to reduce the growth of benefits for upper-income seniors while making the program even stronger for lower-income seniors. This isn't a cut, it's simply a reduction in how fast the benefit will increase for wealthier retirees who rely less on Social Security. (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, National Review, 8/5/14)

IN THE SENATE, RUBIO WOULD VOTE AGAINST CONSERVATIVE BUDGETS THAT SOUGHT TO REDUCE THE NATIONAL DEBT

In 2013, Rubio Voted Against The Conservative Budget Substitute That "Replaced A Budget That Raises Taxes To Increase Spending With A Bill That Balances The Budget In Four Years, Returns Discretionary Spending To 2008 Levels, Replaces Welfare Programs With Block Grants To The States, Reforms Entitlement Programs And Eliminates Capital Gains As Well As Estate And Gift Taxes"

The American Conservative Union "Supports These Broad Government Reforms And Supported This Amendment"

In 2013, Rubio Voted Nay On The Paul Amendment To SCR 8, A Conservative Budget Substitute. (Paul Amdt To SCR 8, Failed (18 - 81), United States Senate, 3/22/13, Rubio Voted Nay)

- NOTE: "In the nature of a substitute." (Paul Amdt To SCR 8)

ACU: The Paul Amendment To SCR 8 "Replaced A Budget That Raises Taxes To Increase Spending With A Bill That Balances The Budget In Four Years, Returns Discretionary Spending To 2008 Levels, Replaces Welfare Programs With Block Grants To The States, Reforms Entitlement Programs And Eliminates Capital Gains As Well As Estate And Gift Taxes." "The Paul amendment to the budget bill would have replaced a budget that raises taxes to increase spending with a bill that balances the budget in four years, returns discretionary spending to 2008 levels, replaces welfare programs with block grants to the states, reforms entitlement programs and eliminates capital gains as well as estate and gift taxes." (American Conservative Union)

The American Conservative Union "Supports These Broad Government Reforms And Supported This Amendment." "ACU supports these broad government reforms and supported this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on March 22, 2013, by a vote of 18-81." (American Conservative Union)

In 2021, Rubio Voted Against The Conservative Budget Substitute That ""Implements The 'Three Penny Plan' Federal Budget… The Federal Budget Will Be Balanced Within Five Years By Cutting The Budget By 3 Pennies On The Dollar Each Year Over The Next Five Years"

The American Conservative Union "Supports Restoring Fiscal Sanity To A Congress That Continually Grows Deficit Spending And Has Plunged Our Nation Into Nearly $30 Trillion In Debt And Supported This Amendment"

In 2021, Rubio Voted Nay On The Paul Amendment To SCR 5, Which Is A Conservative Alternate Budget. (Paul Amdt To SCR 5, Failed (29 - 71), United States Senate, 2/4/21, Rubio Voted Nay)

- NOTE: "In the nature of a substitute." (Paul Amdt To SCR 5)

ACU: The Paul Amendment To SCR 5 "Implements The 'Three Penny Plan' Federal Budget… The Federal Budget Will Be Balanced Within Five Years By Cutting The Budget By 3 Pennies On The Dollar Each Year Over The Next Five Years". "The Sen. Rand Paul (ACUF Lifetime 97%) amendment #1 to the congressional budget implements the "Three Penny Plan" federal budget. Under the plan, the federal budget will be balanced within five years by cutting the budget by 3 pennies on the dollar each year over the next five years, at which point spending increases are then limited to 2 percent per year." (American Conservative Union)

The American Conservative Union "Supports Restoring Fiscal Sanity To A Congress That Continually Grows Deficit Spending And Has Plunged Our Nation Into Nearly $30 Trillion In Debt And Supported This Amendment." "ACU supports restoring fiscal sanity to a Congress that continually grows deficit spending and has plunged our nation into nearly $30 trillion in debt and supported this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on February 4, 2021 by a vote of 29-71." (American Conservative Union)

RUBIO HAS STOOD IN SUPPORT OF UNIONS AND ORGANIZED LABOR

In His 2012 Memoir, Rubio Noted Having Participated In His Dad's Union Strike At Age 13

In His 2012 Memoir, Rubio Noted Having Participated In His Dad's Union Strike At Age 13. "In 1984, the Culinary Workers Union went on strike. I went with my father to the union hall. The strike became my new obsession. I never grasped all the issues involved, but understood generally that the strikers were just asking to be treated fairly. They had worked hard to help make the hotels profitable, and were entitled to better compensation and benefits. I was excited to be part of the cause & join forces with striking workers from many hotels. At the height of the strike, it seemed all the kid at my school had a parent on the picket line. I became a

committed union activist. I got to spend time with my father. I thought it was nothing but fun. My father was older than most of the strikers. Eventually, our small savings were gone & the union checks stopped coming. Not long after, he informed me he was going back to work. I accused him of selling out and called him a scab. It hurt him, and I'm ashamed of it. He had had no choice. He returned to work for a smaller salary and fewer benefits." (An American Son, by Marco Rubio, p. 54-55 Jun 19, 2012)

For Migrant Farmworkers, Rubio "Cosponsored Legislation That Would Have Allowed Workers To Sue Growers In State Court If They Were Cheated On Pay"

For Migrant Farmworkers, Rubio "Cosponsored Legislation That Would Have Allowed Workers To Sue Growers In State Court If They Were Cheated On Pay." "Early in his tenure, for instance, he set up a meeting with farmworkers to discuss their working conditions. He addressed a crowd of about 50 one night in the hall of a migrant-labor housing complex in Homestead, a farming community south of Miami; ultimately, he cosponsored legislation that would have allowed workers to sue growers in state court if they were cheated on pay. "The idea that any legislator, let alone a Republican, would reach out to farmworkers was unheard of. We were flabbergasted," says Greg Schell, managing attorney for the Migrant Farmworker Justice Project." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

WHILE SERVING IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE, RUBIO DEVIATED FROM FISCAL CONSERVATISM IN SEVERAL ADDITIONAL INSTANCES

During His Early Florida State Legislative Tenure, Rubio "Wasn't Particularly Passionate About Cutting Spending…"

"…In His First Three Years, He Supported Adding A $4 Surcharge To Cruise Tickets To Fund A Marlins Stadium And A $1.2 Million Earmark To Build New Bike Paths In His District"

During His Early Florida State Legislative Tenure, Rubio "Wasn't Particularly Passionate About Cutting Spending. In His First Three Years, He Supported Adding A $4 Surcharge To Cruise Tickets To Fund A Marlins Stadium And A $1.2 Million Earmark To Build New Bike Paths In His District." "Back then, he was hardly the scorching conservative who would later woo Tea Partiers nationwide. Before the year's session, he told the Herald he'd focus on supporting early education and community policing. And he wasn't particularly passionate about cutting spending. In his first three years, he supported adding a $4 surcharge to cruise tickets to fund a Marlins stadium and a $1.2 million earmark to build new bike paths in his district. "In his first years, Marco was not this red-meat, Tea Party, let's-abolish-the-government guy you're seeing on the trail now," Sen. Steve Geller says. "His politics didn't shift that way until he became the speaker-designate.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

While Serving In The Florida Legislature, Rubio Is Known To Have Requested Tens Of Millions Of Dollars In Earmarks With Rubio Requesting $43 Million Worth In 2002 Alone

While Serving In The Florida Legislature, Rubio Is Known To Have Requested Tens Of Millions Of Dollars In Earmarks With Rubio Requesting $43 Million Worth In 2002 Alone. "Rubio served in the Florida House of Representatives from 2000-2008, the last two years as House speaker. During his U.S. Senate campaign, Rubio was criticized by independent candidate Gov. Charlie Crist for requesting millions of dollars in pork projects, which Crist said he had to veto. We've rated two specific claims when it comes to Rubio and earmarks before -- we called a claim that he supported $800,000 to replace the turf at a field where he played flag football Half True and a claim that he tried to insert $1.5 milllion into the budget for a rowing institute Pants on Fire! Florida's version of the earmark was something called a Community Budget Issue Request -- a budget request legislators made for local projects. Legislators had to file their request ahead of the budget planning process and attach their name to every request. The Legislature stopped the practice in 2009, the year after Rubio left office. In 2002, Rubio's third year, the Florida House requested $1.5 billion in Community Budget Issue Requests, according to data kept by the state. To put that in perspective, the state budget that Gov. Jeb Bush signed that year totaled $50 billion, and legislators had been warned of a tight budget. (They actually were summoned back to Tallahassee to slash $1 billion from the budget in December 2001 to keep the state from going in the red.) Rubio's member budget requests for 2002 remain archived on a state website, which confirms Schale's statement. Rubio requested funding for 37 projects totalling $43,697,787. Here's the complete list. • $7.67 million, requested by Jackson Health System, to provide inpatient and outpatient health care services to people with HIV/AIDS, including medications, psycho-social counseling, education and case management. • $5 million, requested by Miami-Dade County, for an elevated, automated people-mover system connecting three elevated stations in front of the Miami International Airport passenger terminal with the planned Miami Intermodal Center. • $5 million, requested by Miami-Dade County Empowerment Trust, for a federally designated "empowerment zone" that targets county, state, and federal resources to stimulate economic development in distressed, low-income areas. • $2.25 million, requested by the city of Miami Springs, to eliminate recurring flood conditions through stormwater drainage improvements. • $2 million, requested by the Achievement & Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., for ARC Broward Inc., to provide intensive therapeutic & behavioral intervention for children aged 5-12 with severe autism or related disorders. • $1.5 million, requested by the South Florida Water Management District, for construction to permanently mitigate the recurring flood threat. • $1.5 million, requested by the city of West Miami, to reduce a wastewater collection system budget deficit. • $1.3 million, requested by the city of South Miami, to complete an upgrade to the city's stormwater drainage system to eliminate or reduce pollutants from the direct discharge of stormwater runoff and prevent local flooding. • $1.25 million, requested by the city of West Miami, for drainage improvements. • $1.2 million, requested by the city of South Miami, to provide high-quality municipal water and fire protection in the city. • $1.2 million by the city of Miami Springs, to relocate utilities to satisfy state DOT objectives at certain intersections. • $1.18 million, requested by Jackson Health System, for residential care for adjudicated substance abusing adolescents, including physician

care, social work, nursing, psychology, medications and education. • $1 million, requested by the University of Miami School of Medicine for programs in spinal cord injury and brain research; to develop improved rehabilitation technologies; protect and prevent nervous system damage; and promote regeneration and recovery of function. • $1 million, requested by the city of Miami Springs, to eliminate infiltration in an existing wastewater treatment system. • Two separate $1 million community budget issues, both requested by Miami-Dade County, to provide hot evening and weekend meals to elderly residents of Miami-Dade County who are assessed as "high risk" or in danger of malnutrition. • $900,000, requested by the city of Miami Springs, to renovate an existing multi-purpose facility. • $787,059, requested by Public Health Trust of Miami for Jackson Health System, for short-term assessment and treatment of ajudicated minors for substance abuse, including medication, social work, education and physician care. • $750,000, requested by RFB&D of Miami for the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic Florida Unit, to meet the educational needs of Florida's print-disabled children and adults through taped and digital audio books. • $750,000, requested by the Department of Environmental Resource Management for the Miami-Dade County DERM, for the stormwater planning component for the C-4 Basin in north central Miami-Dade County. • $684,690, requested by Public Health Trust for Jackson Health System, for a medical foster care program for 88 children in state custody as an alternative to reducing institutional placements of children with chronic illnesses. • $675,000, requested by the Miami-Dade Homeless Trust, to provide post-crisis stabilization unit out-placement in transitional housing for chronic, mentally ill homeless persons recently discharged. • $600,000, requested by Miami Children's Hospital, to maintain and develop its pediatric trauma center. • $500,000, requested by Mayors Summit of the Americas, to create permanent offices in Florida for the Mayors Summit of the Americas, an organization of mayors of all the democratic countries of the hemisphere. • $500,000, requested by Children's Psychiatric Center in Miami, to provide at-risk children in kindergarten through third grade with individual mentoring. • $425,000, requested by the Florida Venture Foundation, to provide outreach, guidance, training, and technical support services to minority businesses in South Florida. • $400,000, requested by the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, to facilitate services, trade and investment in Florida through a statewide database, website, out-bound and in-bound missions, one-on-one appointments and seminars. • $350,000, requested by One Nation Inc. of Miami, to help legal permanent residents become U.S. citizens free of charge, and also conduct monthly citizenship and voter registration drives in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. • $269,000, requested by the city of Coral Gables, for intersection improvements along U.S. 1. • $200,000, requested by the Children's Psychiatric Center of Miami, for an in-school program that provides therapeutic and behavioral support to the alternative education classrooms. • $200,000, requested by First Quality Home Care Inc. of Miami, for homebound insulin-dependent diabetics who are unable to self-administer their insulin due to a secondary diagnosis such as blindness. • $200,000, requested by the Achievement & Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., for ARC Broward Inc., to provide intensive specialized behavorial intervention in home and community-based settings; and specialized homebound speech, occupational and family therapies for children with severe autism and related disorders aged 3-18. • $175,000, requested by Curtiss Mansion Inc., to design the renovation of the historically important home of famed naval aviator and inventor Glen Curtiss. • $112,500, requested by the city of South Miami, for improvements to Dante Fascell Park, including drainage in parking lots and tennis courts." (PolitiFact, 11/16/10)

"During Rubio's Eight Years In Office — Including The Final Two When He Was House Speaker — He Unofficially Helped Push Loads Of Hometown Spending: $250 Million, According To A Times/Herald Analysis Of Little-Known Budget Documents"

"During Rubio's Eight Years In Office — Including The Final Two When He Was House Speaker — He Unofficially Helped Push Loads Of Hometown Spending: $250 Million, According To A Times/Herald Analysis Of Little-Known Budget Documents." "Republican U.S. Senate front-runner Marco Rubio brags on his Web site that he didn't officially request budget pork in his last four years as a leader in the Florida House. But during Rubio's eight years in office — including the final two when he was House speaker — he unofficially helped push loads of hometown spending: $250 million, according to a Times/Herald analysis of little-known budget documents. The budget items linked to Rubio from 2000 to 2008 are part of a list compiled yearly by the governor's office to track hometown spending. Most of Rubio's budget items benefited his home county of Miami-Dade — from a $50,000 grant sought for a Coral Gables park to $80 million for a University of Miami genomics project. A total of $25 million in requests were vetoed by the governor. The amount of budget money connected to Rubio attests to his skill as a lawmaker but also contrasts with his campaign image as a tight-fisted spending hawk crusading against "earmarks" that have plagued the budget process in Washington. Rubio wouldn't comment and his campaign referred questions to consultant Albert Martinez, who worked in the House under Rubio. Martinez said Rubio tried to cut taxes and spending, not increase them. "Marco Rubio's a limited-government conservative," Martinez said. "He's not a no-government conservative." The budget items also shed light on times when Rubio's public job as a legislator dovetailed with his private interests. One appropriation for Miami-Dade County was sought by lobbyists who worked at his law firm. Another item aided a friend's fight for a Florida Turnpike contract. Other proposals gave big sums to Florida International University and Jackson Memorial Hospital, where Rubio later worked as a consultant. Martinez said the items linked to Rubio helped the whole county, and he described the spending for the hospital and university as necessary and non-controversial. Martinez said the items weren't "turkeys" — Tallahassee parlance for hometown spending lawmakers obtain for their districts, often with little scrutiny. The governor's office budget spreadsheets are nicknamed "turkey lists," but Martinez said Rubio's projects weren't turkeys as defined by the business group TaxWatch." (*Tampa Bay Times*, 11/9/10)

RUBIO HAS ACKNOWLEDGED GLOBAL WARMING AND HELPED THE LEFT ADVANCE AN ANTI-LEFT ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA

VIDEO: In 2009, Rubio Acknowledges "Global Warming" And Calls For Measures To Respond To Likely "Emissions Caps"

VIDEO: In 2009, Rubio Acknowledges "Global Warming" And Calls For Measures To Respond To Likely "Emissions Caps." (YouTube, 3/27/09)



(YouTube, 3/27/09)

RUBIO EMBRACED ASPECTS OF THE LEFT'S BURDENSOME REACTION TO COVID

Rubio Is Known To Be Personally Vaccinated Against Covid

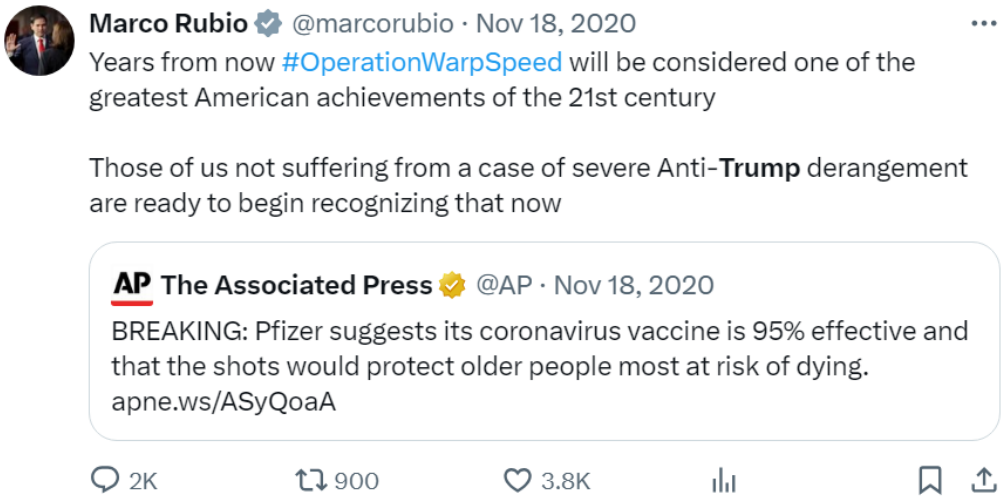
VIDEO: In December 2021, Rubio Noted That He Was Vaccinated Against COVID. (Fox News, 12/2/21)



(Fox News, 12/2/21)

Rubio Is Known To Have Promoted The Covid Vaccine

Rubio, In November 2020: "Years From Now #Operationwarpspeed Will Be Considered One Of The Greatest American Achievements Of The 21st Century." (Twitter, 11/18/20)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Nov 18, 2020
Years from now #OperationWarpSpeed will be considered one of the greatest American achievements of the 21st century
Those of us not suffering from a case of severe Anti-Trump derangement are ready to begin recognizing that now
The Associated Press @AP · Nov 18, 2020
BREAKING: Pfizer suggests its coronavirus vaccine is 95% effective and that the shots would protect older people most at risk of dying. apne.ws/ASyQoaA
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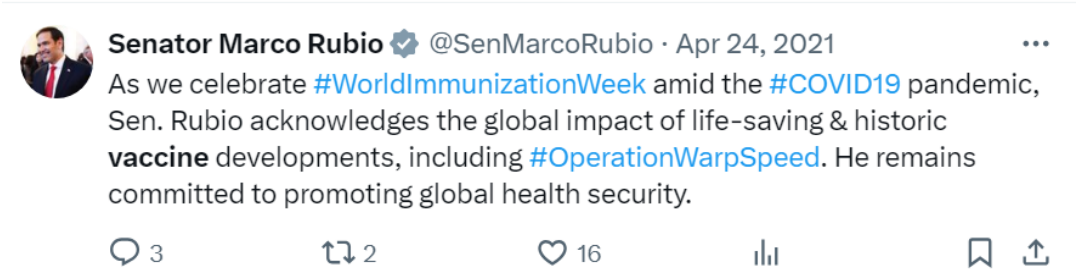
(Twitter, 11/18/20)

In December 2020, Rubio Praised Operation Warp Speed As An "Unprecedented Achievement That Did What Many Experts Doubted Could Be Done, Produce An Effective Vaccine For #Covid19 In Less Than 7 Months." (Twitter, 12/13/20)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Dec 13, 2020
Because of their deranged hatred of @realdonaldtrump many in legacy media will never give him credit for #OperationWarpSpeed an unprecedented achievement that did what many experts doubted could be done,produce an effective vaccine for #Covid19 in less than 7 months
Detroit Free Press @freep · Dec 13, 2020
Minutes ago, trucks filled with #coronavirus vaccines departed the @pfizer facility in Portage, Mich., headed for distribution centers and airports. Crowds who gathered outside the facility cheered the departing @FedEx and @UPS trucks. bit.ly/3gHr1oV

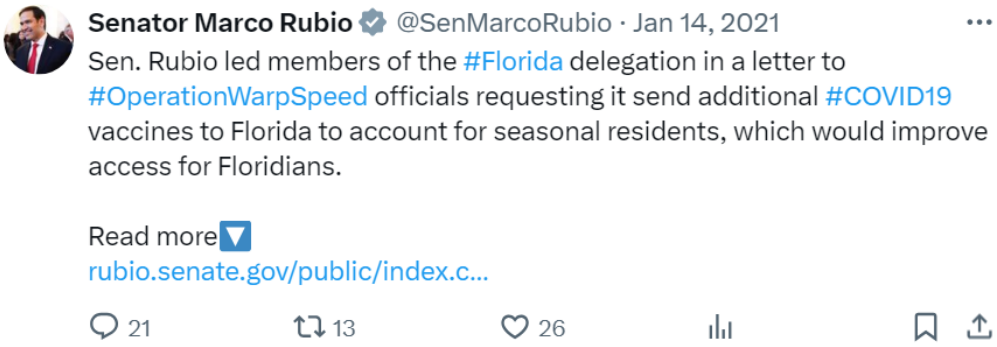
(Twitter, 12/13/20)

Rubio, In April 2021: "As We Celebrate #Worldimmunizationweek Amid The #COVID19 Pandemic, Sen. Rubio Acknowledges The Global Impact Of Life-Saving & Historic Vaccine Developments, Including #Operationwarpspeed. He Remains Committed To Promoting Global Health Security." (Twitter, 4/24/21)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Apr 24, 2021
As we celebrate #WorldImmunizationWeek amid the #COVID19 pandemic, Sen. Rubio acknowledges the global impact of life-saving & historic vaccine developments, including #OperationWarpSpeed. He remains committed to promoting global health security.
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(Twitter, 4/24/21)

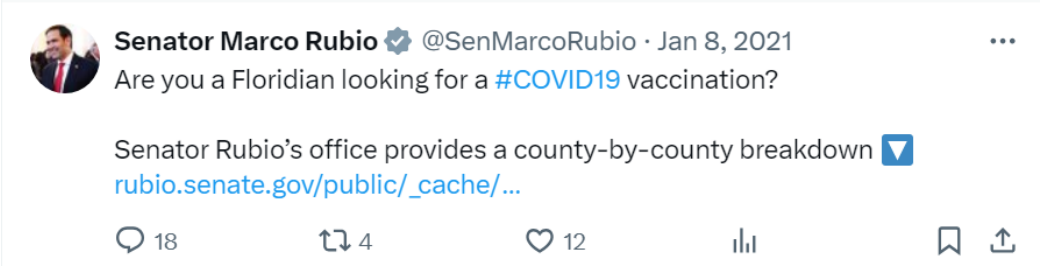
Rubio Is Known To Have Repeatedly Promoted The COVID Vaccine And Vaccination Programs For Floridians During The Pandemic. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 14, 2021
Sen. Rubio led members of the #Florida delegation in a letter to #OperationWarpSpeed officials requesting it send additional #COVID19 vaccines to Florida to account for seasonal residents, which would improve access for Floridians.
Read more
rubio.senate.gov/public/index.c...
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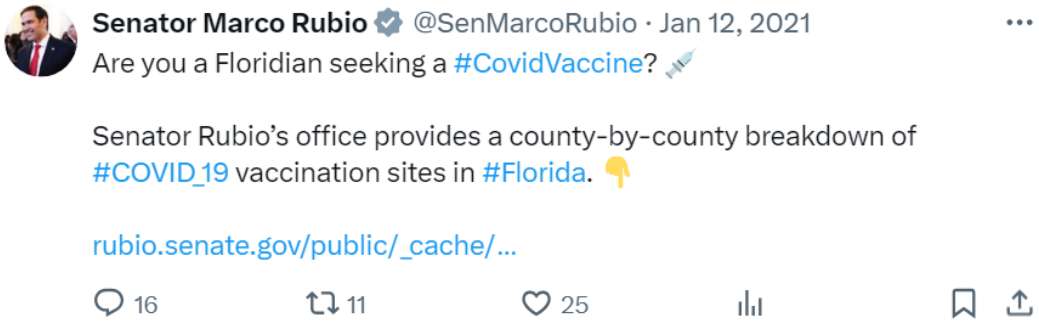
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Mar 8, 2021
The federal vaccination site in #Miami is offering FREE walk-up #COVID19 vaccines to the following populations:
✅Persons aged 65+
✅Health care personnel w/ direct patients
✅K-12 school employees aged 50+
✅Sworn law enforcement officers aged 50+
✅Firefighters aged 50+
COVID-19 VACCINATION SITE
Walk-Ups Accepted
Free COVID-19 vaccines available

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 8, 2021
Are you a Floridian looking for a #COVID19 vaccination?
Senator Rubio's office provides a county-by-county breakdown 🔽
rubio.senate.gov/public/_cache/...
18
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12

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 12, 2021
Are you a Floridian seeking a #CovidVaccine? 💉
Senator Rubio's office provides a county-by-county breakdown of #COVID19 vaccination sites in #Florida. 👇
rubio.senate.gov/public/_cache/...
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(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY PROMOTED CHILDHOOD VACCINE AND CRITICIZED UNVACCINATED PEOPLE

In 2015, "Sen. Marco Rubio Of Florida, Who Is Also Weighing A Presidential Run, Was Unequivocal: Children Should 'Absolutely' Be Vaccinated And The Practice Should 'Absolutely' Be Mandatory…"

In 2015, "Sen. Marco Rubio Of Florida, Who Is Also Weighing A Presidential Run, Was Unequivocal: Children Should "Absolutely" Be Vaccinated And The Practice Should "Absolutely" Be Mandatory, He Said Tuesday." "Cruz added in a statement that vaccines "have tremendous public health benefits." "But on the question of whether kids should be vaccinated, the answer is obvious, and there's widespread agreement: of course they should. We vaccinate both our girls, and encourage all parents to do the same," Cruz said. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, who is also weighing a presidential run, was unequivocal: children should "absolutely" be vaccinated and the practice should "absolutely" be mandatory, he said Tuesday. Rubio added to the heap of doctors and experts who assert there is no link between vaccinations." (CNN, 2/2/15)

2015: "Unvaccinated People, Rubio Added, Put Infants At Risk"

"Unvaccinated People, Rubio Added, Put Infants At Risk." "And unvaccinated people, Rubio added, put infants at risk. "If enough people are not vaccinated you put at risk infants that are three months of age or younger that have not been vaccinated, and you put at risk immune-suppressed children that are not able to get those vaccinations," Rubio said. "So absolutely, all children in America [should be vaccinated].'" (CNN, 2/2/15)

RUBIO NOTED HE WAS OPEN TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA

In 2014, Rubio Noted He Was Open To Medical Marijuana

In 2014, Rubio Noted He Was Open To Medical Marijuana. "Sen. Marco Rubio said he supports the legalization of some strains of marijuana, such as one recently approved by Florida's Legislature, for legitimate pain management. But he does not support the state ballot initiative, which he called a "ruse" to allow people to access the drug to get high. "If there is a medical condition that can be treated or alleviated through the use of medicinal marijuana, that's something that I'd be open to," Rubio, R-Fla., said Wednesday. Last month, Gov. Rick Scott signed into law a bill that permits Floridians to use a "non-euphoric" strain of marijuana to treat conditions such as severe epilepsy, Lou Gehrig's disease and to alleviate pain from cancer. "What I'm concerned about and I'm not sure how this law in Florida would apply to, is to the ruse of medicinal marijuana for purposes of allowing people to buy a joint and smoke it," Rubio said. Medical marijuana laws have been abused in other states, he said. Rubio said he would support the use of strains "that don't have elements that are mind-altering or create the high." Rubio further clarified his support for medicinal marijuana only "without creating the specter of widespread recreational use." Most people would be supportive of that, he said." (*Palm Beach Post*, 7/31/14)

RUBIO PREVIOUSLY OFFERED SUPPORT FOR BLACK LIVES MATTER AND ACKNOWLEDGED 'SYSTEMIC RACISM'

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Offers Some Support For The BLM Movement Noting That It Is Rallying Against A "Legitimate Issue" Regarding Discrimination In The Criminal Justice System

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Offers Some Support For The BLM Movement Noting That It Is Rallying Against A "Legitimate Issue" Regarding Discrimination In The Criminal Justice System. (YouTube, 8/13/15)



(YouTube, 8/13/15)

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Offers Support For Black Americans And Acknowledges That The Bias Against Black Americans In The Criminal Justice System And Law Enforcement

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Offers Support For Black Americans And Acknowledges That The Bias Against Black Americans In The Criminal Justice System And Law Enforcement. (YouTube, 8/13/15)



(YouTube, 8/13/15)

In 2007, Rubio Noted That An Apology For Slavery Resolution "Would Merit Discussion"

In April 2007, Rubio Noted That An Apology For Slavery Resolution "Would Merit Discussion." "Nearly 142 years after Florida's slaves first tasted freedom, state leaders say the time may soon be right to apologize for Florida's role in their bondage. In 1860, at the outbreak of the Civil War, 44 percent of Florida's population -- or nearly 62,000 out of 140,424 people -- were slaves. Florida's miles of uninhabited coast and hidden harbors also were a haven for slavers. Although officially banned by the federal government in 1803, the trans-Atlantic slave trade continued to prosper by landing slaves in Florida and then smuggling them into other states. "There were a lot of atrocities that happened in Florida," said Sen. Tony Hill, D-Jacksonville, chairman of Florida's Legislative Black Caucus. Hill had considered asking fellow state lawmakers to face the issue during the final weeks of their annual session, scheduled to end May 4. But with so little time left, and major issues such as property-tax relief and the budget still to be resolved, he plans to wait until next year. And at least among the Legislature's top leaders, his request is likely to get a warm reception. "Obviously, slavery was one of the darkest periods in American history, one of the saddest and most tragic," said House Speaker Marco Rubio, R-West Miami. "I think it would merit discussion. There aren't a lot of defenders of slavery left." Senate President Ken Pruitt, a Civil War history buff, said he would be "very supportive" of an attempt to address Florida's role in condoning the institution of slavery. "While it is historic, it is repugnant," said Pruitt, R-Port St. Lucie. Through a push by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and black legislators, several Southern and border states this year have publicly begun to face their role in the enslavement of Africans and their descendants, an institution that helped ignite the four-year war between the states. No state has yet issued an apology, but Virginia expressed its "profound regret" in February. Similar bills have passed in Maryland and North Carolina. Legislation is pending in Alabama, Georgia and Missouri. And reparations may be considered in Mississippi. Margaret Newton of Boynton

Beach, who directs the African and African-American Studies Office for Palm Beach County public schools, said it is important for Florida to recognize and acknowledge wrongdoings. "I would hope that once you start to apologize, you come to grips with the past so it won't be repeated, so it won't happen again," she said." (*Orlando Sentinel*, 4/18/07)

In 2008, Rubio Underscored His Support For The Slavery Apology Resolution Noting "Expressions Of Regret Are Symbolic, But They Are Important"

In March 2008, Rubio Underscored His Support For The Slavery Apology Resolution Noting "Expressions Of Regret Are Symbolic, But They Are Important." "More than 140 years after slavery thrived in Florida, some lawmakers from both parties believe now is time for the state Legislature to apologize. Democratic Sen. Tony Hill, working since last year with Republican Senate President Ken Pruitt, will propose a resolution in which the Legislature formally apologizes for the history of slavery in this state. "Black folks have come so far in this country, to come from slavery to a Democratic nominee for president," said Sen. Gary Siplin, D-Orlando. He filed legislation seeking a similar apology but vowed to work for Hill's version. "This apology is the right thing to do." Exact language isn't yet available, and it's not clear if the House leadership will sign on to the plan. But Pruitt's spokeswoman confirmed his interest, and House Speaker Marco Rubio said he generally supports the idea. "Expressions of regret are symbolic, but they are important," Rubio said. Whether the proposal will encounter opposition is unclear. None has emerged so far, and politically it's not necessarily prudent to oppose such a measure. The proposal echoes similar moves by other states, including New Jersey, Alabama, North Carolina and Virginia. The New Jersey Assembly in January passed a resolution expressing "profound regret" for the state's role in slavery. Hill's resolution would be the first of its kind in Florida, and the fact that Pruitt has been involved could boost its chances of passing. Hill, a union organizer from Jacksonville, said he was inspired to push the matter in part by the 2006 film Amazing Grace. The movie is based on the life of William Wilberforce, who fought in the British Parliament to end the slave trade in the British Empire. Hill said he and Pruitt, who works in real estate in Port St. Lucie, have discussed the film, which Hill called moving. Slavery in Florida dates back to the late 1500s, when the Spanish used slaves to build forts. Centuries later, slave use moved to the state's agriculture economy. The British imported slaves to Florida between 1763 and 1783, and the coastline was a popular dock for ships carrying slaves intended for other states. The practice grew after Florida became a U.S. territory in the early 1800s and plantation owners from Virginia, the Carolinas and other Southern states moved their operations - and their slaves - to Florida's cheaper land, primarily in the Panhandle. By 1860, there were nearly 62,000 slaves - 44 percent of the state population. "It's time for us to move forward," said Sen. Frederica Wilson, D-Miami, a member of the black caucus. "And the only way for us to do that is to say, 'We made a mistake.' Until we do that, the racial divide in Florida remains strong." Hill's plan was the second race-relations issue to come to the fore as the annual legislative session opened Tuesday. Rubio, in his opening remarks, told lawmakers he wants to address "the tragic tale of what is happening to young African-American males." "It is intolerable and unacceptable that an entire segment of our population has come to believe that the American dream is not available to them," Rubio said. "And we can never be the nation God intended us to be so long as this tragedy persists." Meanwhile, House Rep. Don Brown, R-DeFuniak Springs, wants to create a Confederate flag license plate honoring "Confederate heritage." He told the St.

Petersburg Times he just wants to honor a part of history - much like honoring Martin Luther King Jr. by naming a street after him." (*Tampa Bay Times*, 3/5/08)

In 2008, While Serving As Florida House Speaker, Rubio Oversaw Passage Of A Resolution "Expressing 'Profound Regret For The Involuntary Servitude Of Africans, And Calling For Reconciliation Among All Floridians'"

In March 2008, While Serving As Florida House Speaker, Rubio Oversaw Passage Of A Resolution "Expressing 'Profound Regret For The Involuntary Servitude Of Africans, And Calling For Reconciliation Among All Floridians.'" "More than 140 years after a former Florida governor described Africans as "a wild barbarian to be tamed and civilized," the Legislature on Wednesday apologized for the state's role in sanctioning slavery. The House and Senate approved a resolution expressing "profound regret for the involuntary servitude of Africans, and calling for reconciliation among all Floridians." There was no discussion before the unanimous voice votes, but the reading of the resolution — which described how slaves' ears were nailed to posts during whippings — brought some lawmakers, including Tampa Sen. Arthenia Joyner, to tears. "It was painful," said Joyner, a Democrat and black caucus member. "I tried to imagine myself under those circumstances. I mean, I know how incensed I got in the '60s just knowing I couldn't get into a movie!" Gov. Charlie Crist, affectionately dubbed "Florida's first black governor" by some black lawmakers, visited the Senate chamber to watch the vote. In the House, Speaker Marco Rubio, R-West Miami, took the unusual step of ordering all members to their seats. And in a rare appearance, Senate President Ken Pruitt, R-Port St. Lucie, sat at Rubio's side. "This was as sincere and as meaningful an apology as could be given," Pruitt said. "It was important for the words to stand on their own." The resolution did not address reparations. Crist appeared to be open to such efforts if slave descendancy could be established. "Certainly, it's something you'd like to be able to do," he said. But one black lawmaker, Sen. Al Lawson, said reparations are unlikely because they are controversial and they would cost the state so much. "But I appreciate the governor's comment," said Lawson, D-Tallahassee. As news of the vote spread Thursday, public reaction on the St. Petersburg Times' Web site, tampabay.com, varied. Some readers accused lawmakers of "wasting" time and questioned why an apology was needed when all slave owners were dead. Others said it wasn't enough; reparations are in order. Some commended lawmakers, saying they hoped it would help heal society's racial strife. With Wednesday's vote, Florida joins five other states — Alabama, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina and New Jersey — that have apologized for slavery." (*Tampa Bay Times*, 3/26/08)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY BACKED POLICIES THAT UNDERMINE THE SECOND AMENDMENT THROUGH 'RED FLAG LAWS'

VIDEO: In 2019, Rubio Posted A Video Touting His Op-Ed In The New York Times Arguing That Enacting Federal Red Flag Laws Were The "Most Effective" Way To Prevent Mass Shootings

VIDEO: In 2019, Rubio Posted A Video Touting His Op-Ed In The New York Times Arguing That Enacting Federal Red Flag Laws Were The "Most Effective" Way To Prevent Mass Shootings. (Twitter, 9/12/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Sep 12, 2019
Sen Marco Rubio explains why #redflag laws are the most effective way to prevent mass shootings in @nytopinion op-ed. Check it out
nytimes.com/2019/09/12/opi...
demanding a response to curtail the violence. If we are looking to deliver a solution that reduces bloodshed and respects the rights of responsible gun owners, the only realistic action must be bipartisan.
This is why the recent focus on red-flag proposals from our Senate colleagues and the president are welcome. The most effective step Congress can take right now to prevent tragedies like those in Parkland, Fla.; Newtown, Conn.; and Dayton, Ohio, is to enact red-flag laws, which give law enforcement the ability to restrict gun access for unstable, potentially violent people, without infringing on other Americans' rights.
That's why, on the first day of this Congress, I reintroduced bipartisan legislation with Senators Susan Collins, Republican of Maine; Jack Reed, Democrat of Rhode Island; and Angus King, independent of Maine.

(Twitter, 9/12/19)

Rubio Promoted His Legislation To Enact A Federal Red Flag Law And Praised Other Bills For Offering Incentives For States To Enact Red Flag Laws

Rubio Promoted His Legislation To Enact A Federal Red Flag Law And Praised Other Bills For Offering Incentives For States To Enact Red Flag Laws. "This is why the recent focus on red-flag proposals from our Senate colleagues and the president are welcome. The most effective step Congress can take right now to prevent tragedies like those in Parkland, Fla.; Newtown, Conn.; and Dayton, Ohio, is to enact red-flag laws, which give law enforcement the ability to restrict gun access for unstable, potentially violent people, without infringing on other Americans' rights. That's why, on the first day of this Congress, I reintroduced bipartisan legislation with Senators Susan Collins, Republican of Maine; Jack Reed, Democrat of Rhode Island; and Angus King, independent of Maine. We can see the consensus around red-flag

legislation developing in real time. I commend Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina, and Senator Richard Blumenthal, Democrat of Connecticut, who have publicly voiced support for enacting a law that would provide financial incentives to states to adopt red-flag laws. Our bill does exactly that." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The New York Times*, 9/12/19)

Rubio: "Red-Flag Laws Empower Law Enforcement Or Family Members To Use The Judicial System To Keep Guns Out Of The Hands Of Dangerous Individuals"

Rubio: "Red-Flag Laws Empower Law Enforcement Or Family Members To Use The Judicial System To Keep Guns Out Of The Hands Of Dangerous Individuals." "Red-flag laws empower law enforcement or family members to use the judicial system to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals. In Florida, when a concerned family member contacts the police about a person determined to be a threat to himself or others, the police can petition a judge to have his guns taken away for two weeks. After an additional hearing, the risk protection order can be extended for up to a year. The laws do not infringe on the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding gun owners. In order for a state to be eligible for funding under our proposal, it would be required to enact strong due process protections and include a felony penalty for false reporting." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The New York Times*, 9/12/19)

In 2021, Rubio Proposed Legislation That "Would Give Grants To States To Adopt And Implement What Are Known As Extreme-Risk Protection-Order Laws, Or 'Red Flag' Laws. Under The Bill, A Court Could Order The Immediate Confiscation Of A Person's Guns On An Emergency Basis If The Person Is Judged To Be A 'Significant Danger' To Himself Or Herself, Or To Others, "In The Near Future."

In 2021, Rubio Proposed Legislation That "Would Give Grants To States To Adopt And Implement What Are Known As Extreme-Risk Protection-Order Laws, Or 'Red Flag' Laws. Under The Bill, A Court Could Order The Immediate Confiscation Of A Person's Guns On An Emergency Basis If The Person Is Judged To Be A 'Significant Danger' To Himself Or Herself, Or To Others, "In The Near Future.'" "A bipartisan bill aimed at helping states curb gun violence is under attack from a national gun rights group claiming that it calls for confiscation of weapons "based on unsubstantiated accusations" and "without due process." The attack on the bill and its lead sponsor, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., is made in an image shared on Facebook by the National Association for Gun Rights. The Colorado-based advocacy group has more than 4 million followers on Facebook. The post was flagged as part of Facebook's efforts to combat false news and misinformation on its News Feed. (Read more about our partnership with Facebook.) Rubio's bill would give grants to states to adopt and implement what are known as extreme-risk protection-order laws, or "red flag" laws. Under the bill, a court could order the immediate confiscation of a person's guns on an emergency basis if the person is judged to be a "significant danger" to himself or herself, or to others, "in the near future.'" (Politifact, 3/4/21)

- **"Rubio Introduced… On Feb. 8, 2021. S.292, The Extreme Risk Protection Order And Violence Prevention Act, Is Cosponsored By Sens. Rick Scott, R-Fla.; Jack Reed, D-R.I.; And Angus King, I-Maine."** "Rubio introduced a new version on Feb. 8, 2021. S.292, the Extreme Risk Protection Order and Violence Prevention Act, is cosponsored by Sens. Rick Scott, R-Fla.; Jack Reed, D-R.I.; and Angus King, I-Maine.

The bill was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee, but no other action has been taken. Florida is among states that already have red flag laws; it took effect in March 2018." (Politifact, 3/4/21)

"This Is Rubio's Second Time Proposing A Red Flag Bill. The First Was A Month After The Feb. 14, 2018, Shooting At Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School In Parkland"

"This Is Rubio's Second Time Proposing A Red Flag Bill. The First Was A Month After The Feb. 14, 2018, Shooting At Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School In Parkland…" " This is Rubio's second time proposing a red flag bill. The first was a month after the Feb. 14, 2018, shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., in which a 19-year-old former student with a semi-automatic rifle killed 17 people and injured 14 more. News stories reported that there had been warning signs about the shooter, including calls about him to 911 and the FBI, threatening statements he allegedly made and the fact he had a gun. The original bill did not come up for a vote." (Politifact, 3/4/21)

- **VIDEO: In 2018, Rubio Unveiled His Red Flag Legislation With Democratic Sens. Bill Nelson And Jack Reed.** (Twitter, 3/23/18)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Mar 23, 2018
NEW VIDEO: My bipartisan 'red flag' bill encourages states to keep firearms out of the hands of dangerous people while still providing due process. My bill encourages states to do what #Florida and 5 other states have already done. #Sayfie
0:12 / 1:45
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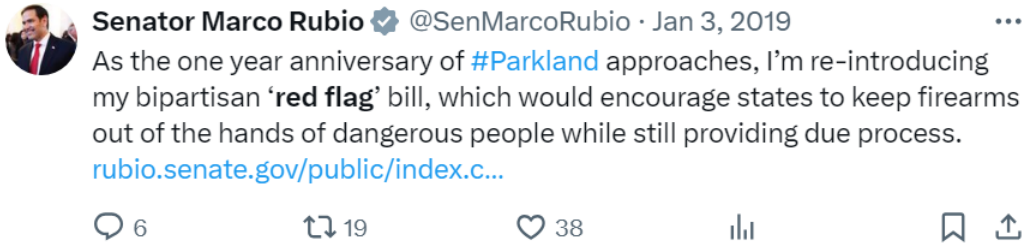
(Twitter, 3/23/18)

- **AUDIO: In 2019, Rubio Noted That His Red Flag Bill Was Based Off A Similar Model That Has Been Used In "Los Angeles."** (Twitter, 8/7/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Aug 7, 2019
We have bipartisan solutions that can keep people from hurting themselves and potentially others. Listen to learn more about my 'Red Flag' bill
marco RUBIO
US SENATOR for FLORIDA
SENATOR RUBIO
IT'S A MODEL THAT WE LEARNED FROM LOS ANGELES. BECAUSE IN ADDITION TO BEING ABLE TO HAVE THE TOOL TO REMOVE FIREARMS AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS
0:35 / 0:58
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49

(Twitter, 8/7/19)

- **In 2019, Rubio Noted "As The One Year Anniversary Of #Parkland Approaches, I'm Re-Introducing My Bipartisan 'Red Flag' Bill, Which Would Encourage States To Keep Firearms Out Of The Hands Of Dangerous People While Still Providing Due Process."** (Twitter, 1/3/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 3, 2019
As the one year anniversary of #Parkland approaches, I'm re-introducing my bipartisan 'red flag' bill, which would encourage states to keep firearms out of the hands of dangerous people while still providing due process.
rubio.senate.gov/public/index.c...
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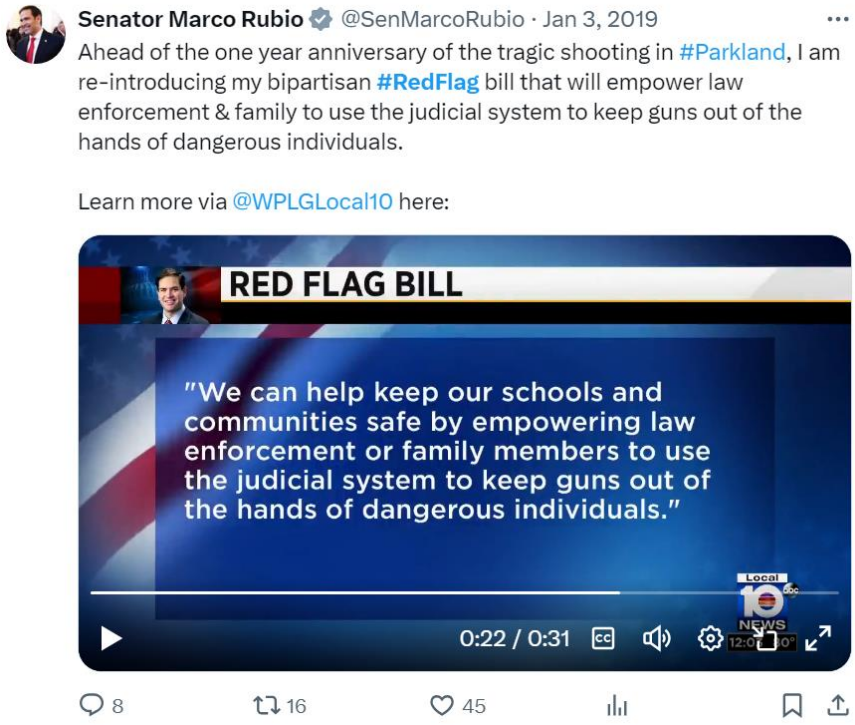
(Twitter, 1/3/19)

  - **VIDEO: In August 2019, Rubio Touted His Red Flag Law Contending That It Would Keep Communities Safe.** (Twitter, 8/19/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Aug 19, 2019
Senator Marco Rubio sat down with @wjxt4 to discuss his "Red Flag" legislation.
✅Keeps our communities safe
✅Protects the constitutional rights of law abiding gun owners.
Read about it here rubio.senate.gov/public/index.c...
This Week in JACKSONVILLE
0:12 / 5:37
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18
46

(Twitter, 8/19/19)

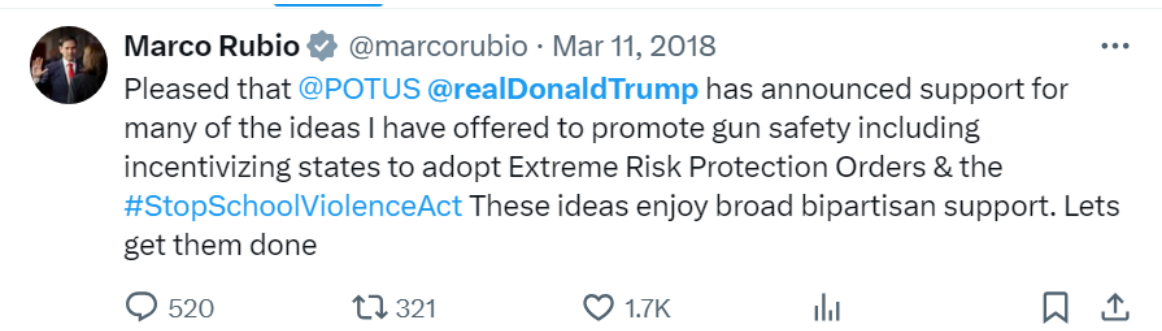
- **VIDEO: Rubio Promoted News Coverage Of Efforts To Reintroduce His Red Flag Gun Law In 2019.** (Twitter, 1/3/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 3, 2019
Ahead of the one year anniversary of the tragic shooting in #Parkland, I am re-introducing my bipartisan #RedFlag bill that will empower law enforcement & family to use the judicial system to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals.
Learn more via @WPLGLocal10 here:
RED FLAG BILL
"We can help keep our schools and communities safe by empowering law enforcement or family members to use the judicial system to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals."
0:22 / 0:31
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(Twitter, 1/3/19)

Rubio, In 2018: "Pleased That @POTUS @Realdonaldtrump Has Announced Support For Many Of The Ideas I Have Offered To Promote Gun Safety Including Incentivizing States To Adopt Extreme Risk Protection Orders & The #Stopschoolviolenceact These Ideas Enjoy Broad Bipartisan Support. Lets Get Them Done"

Rubio, In 2018: "Pleased That @POTUS @Realdonaldtrump Has Announced Support For Many Of The Ideas I Have Offered To Promote Gun Safety Including Incentivizing States To Adopt Extreme Risk Protection Orders & The #Stopschoolviolenceact These Ideas Enjoy Broad Bipartisan Support. Lets Get Them Done." (Twitter, 3/11/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 11, 2018
Pleased that @POTUS @realDonaldTrump has announced support for many of the ideas I have offered to promote gun safety including incentivizing states to adopt Extreme Risk Protection Orders & the #StopSchoolViolenceAct These ideas enjoy broad bipartisan support. Lets get them done
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(Twitter, 3/11/18)

Hypocritically, In 2015, Rubio Argued "Gun Laws Have Never Worked And Is Urging Fellow Republicans To Defend Second Amendment Rights"

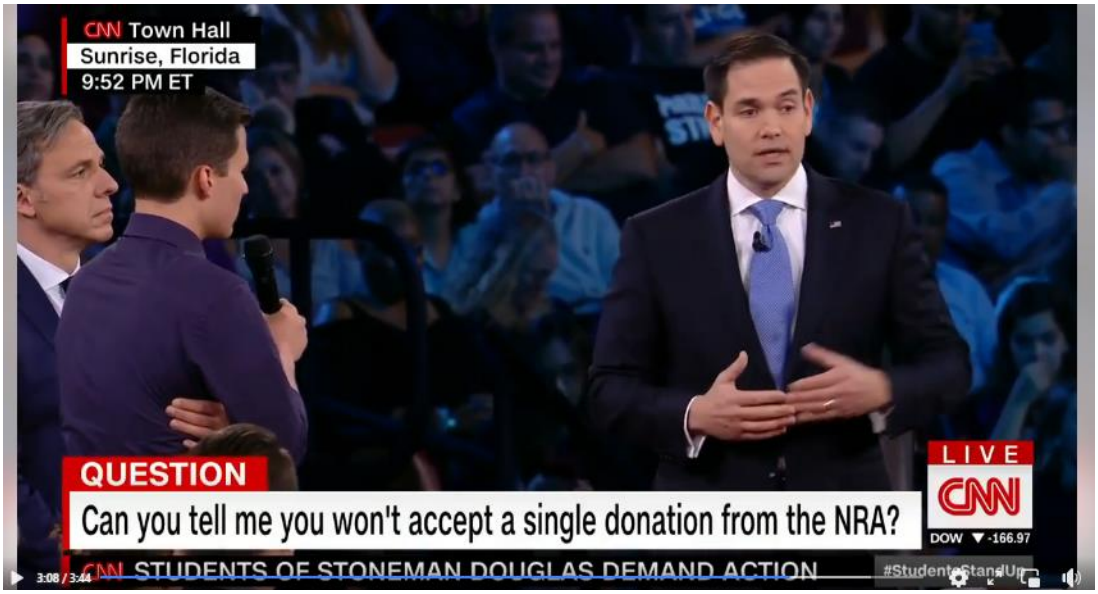
Hypocritically, In 2015, Rubio Argued "Gun Laws Have Never Worked And Is Urging Fellow Republicans To Defend Second Amendment Rights." "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) says gun laws have never worked and is urging fellow Republicans to defend Second Amendment rights. "We must always be the party that protects the Second Amendment," the 2016 contender said during the Sunshine Summit in Orlando on Friday. "Gun laws fail everywhere they're tried," he added. "Law-abiding people follow the laws, while criminals don't. "The nation already has a Democrat Party [and] we don't need two Democrat Parties," he continued. In his address, Rubio offered a broad criticism of government. "We know that every issue does not have its solution in government," he said. "We were never supposed to have the government involved in K-12 education [and] that's why we don't need Common Core. "There is no replacement for the family," he continued. "It is the original government [and] the best school. "Government cannot make you a better family member, a better husband or a better wife," he added. "You can't have a strong people without strong values. Government cannot remove that from you." Rubio also highlighted religious liberty, which he said was under threat from the federal government. "We have a government that increasingly targets the faith community in this nation," he said. "We have a tax code that discourages marriage. "I will have a Justice Department that defends the rights and liberties of every single American. The only way forward is to re-embrace the principles that originally made us a great nation," he added. Rubio is currently among the top three contenders for next year's Republican presidential nomination,

according to the latest RealClearPolitics average of polls. Gun control is becoming a contentious issue on the 2016 trail after a string of recent mass shootings." (The Hill, 11/13/15)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY BACKED POLICIES THAT UNDERMINE THE SECOND AMENDMENT THROUGH RAISING THE ASSAULT WEAPON PURCHASE AGE

VIDEO: Rubio, In 2018: "I Support Lifting The Age From 18 To 21 For Buying A Rifle"

VIDEO: Rubio, In 2018: "I Support Lifting The Age From 18 To 21 For Buying A Rifle." (Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:00)

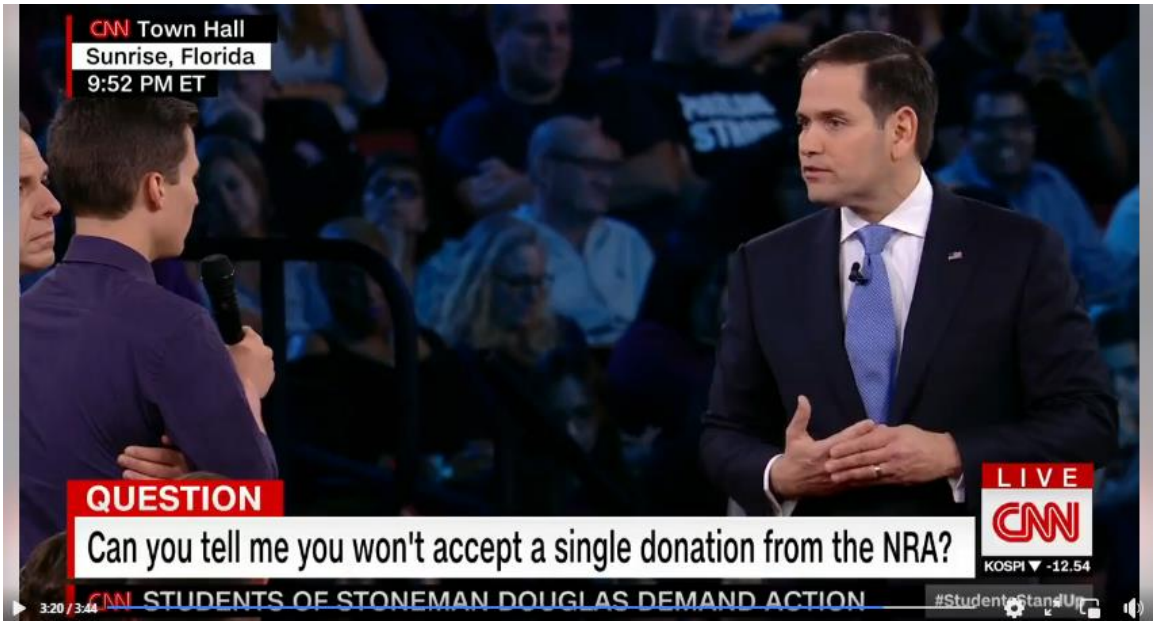


(Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:00)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY BACKED POLICIES THAT UNDERMINE THE SECOND AMENDMENT THROUGH OPPOSING ARMED TEACHERS

VIDEO: Rubio, In 2018: "I Don't Know What Their (The NRA) Position Is On Teachers Being Armed. But I Don't Think They Should Be Because That's What I Think The Right Thing To Do Is"

VIDEO: Rubio, In 2018: "I Don't Know What Their (The NRA) Position Is On Teachers Being Armed. But I Don't Think They Should Be Because That's What I Think The Right Thing To Do Is." (Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:10)



(Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:10)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY BACKED POLICIES THAT UNDERMINE THE SECOND AMENDMENT THROUGH REVAMPS BACKGROUND CHECKS

In 2018, "Rubio Pledged To Work With Nelson On Shoring Up The FBI's Background-Check System For Gun Purchases…"

In 2018, "Rubio Pledged To Work With Nelson On Shoring Up The FBI's Background-Check System For Gun Purchases…" "Scott, Nelson and Rubio were all invited to CNN's nationally televised town hall Wednesday night in Broward County, Florida's most-Democratic and home of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Citing work in Tallahassee, Scott skipped the town hall and didn't address the news media Wednesday. Nelson let him have it, scoring easy points against the still-undeclared Scott. "Our governor did not come here, Governor Scott," Nelson said. The crowd booed. And Rubio, the only Republican onstage, was jeered and interrupted for refusing to support an assault-weapons ban and for not refusing to accept money from the NRA, which has given him an A+ rating. Rubio pledged to work with Nelson on shoring up the FBI's background-check system for gun purchases and advocated for what's called a "gun-violence restraining order" that's likely to be part of the legislation state lawmakers vote on Friday." (*Politico*, 2/21/18)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINE LIMITS

In 2018, "On The Defensive, Rubio Unexpectedly Said He's Rethinking His Support For High-Volume Magazines…"

In 2018, "On The Defensive, Rubio Unexpectedly Said He's Rethinking His Support For High-Volume Magazines…" "On the defensive, Rubio unexpectedly said he's rethinking his support for high-volume magazines and expressed opposition to the proposal to arm teachers and specially trained instructional personnel, a plan popular with the NRA and Republicans in Tallahassee and Washington. Rubio said teachers could get shot by mistake by law enforcement. The glare of the national spotlight has been inescapable, because of the scope and circumstances of the slaughter — 17 dead, and missed interventions and tips that could have stopped it. Still, despite the polls and public pressure, Republicans in Washington and Tallahassee say they won't try to ban the sale or possession of military-style weapons. But earlier in the day, during a White House meeting with mass shooting survivors and advocates, Trump expressed the most interest in the idea of arming teachers, which the father of a murdered child first brought up. "We're going to be looking at it very strongly," Trump said. "If you had a teacher who was adept at firearms, they could very well end the attack very quickly. … I really believe if these cowards knew that the school was well guarded. … I think they wouldn't go into the school to start off with, it could very well solve your problem.'" (*Politico*, 2/21/18)

- **"Rubio Insisted He Was Trying To Find Common Ground And Wasn't Going To Let The Perfect Be The Enemy Of The Good, Particularly When It Came To His Position On High-Volume Magazines."** "Jeered and booed by the crowd, buffeted by tough questions, Rubio stood alone as the only Republican onstage, in purple Florida's liberal bastion of Broward County. He broke with President Trump on whether to arm teachers. Rubio said it was a bad idea. He said he would favor raising the minimum age to purchase an assault rifle from 18 to 21. And he said he would consider restricting the size of magazines for firearms. It was a striking turnabout for Rubio, who never met a gun-rights bill he didn't vote for in the Florida Legislature and, later, in Congress. But Rubio said he wanted to prevent another massacre and said it was time for everyone to start rethinking their positions. The crowd, though, didn't seem to agree. At one point, Rubio's colleague, Sen. Bill Nelson, tried to throw him a lifeline when the Democrat credited the Republican for showing up — unlike Gov. Rick Scott, Nelson's likely opponent in 2018. Rubio insisted he was trying to find common ground and wasn't going to let the perfect be the enemy of the good, particularly when it came to his position on high-volume magazines. "It may not prevent an attack, but it may save lives in an attack," he said, suggesting that three or four lives might have been saved in Parkland had there been some restriction on magazine size." (*Politico*, 2/22/18)
    - **"Rubio Said He Would Leave It To Law Enforcement To Suggest What The Right Magazine Size Would Be."** "Rubio said he would leave it to law enforcement to suggest what the right magazine size would be. That wasn't enough for the audience, even as Rubio chided them that politicians should be

allowed to change their minds. And it wasn't enough for the other people on stage." (*Politico*, 2/22/18)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED A BUMP STOCK BAN

"Rubio Was Met With Applause And Went On To Say He Supports Banning 'Bump Stocks,' Which Can Make A Semiautomatic Fire Like A Machine Gun"

"Rubio Was Met With Applause And Went On To Say He Supports Banning "Bump Stocks," Which Can Make A Semiautomatic Fire Like A Machine Gun." "Rubio was met with applause and went on to say he supports banning "bump stocks," which can make a semiautomatic fire like a machine gun. He also voiced his support for better background checks and mental health funding. But when Rubio said an "assault weapons ban" would not have prevented last week's murders, the boos rained down. "It is too easy to get," Guttenburg said. "It is a weapon of war. The fact that you can't stand with everybody in this building and say that, I'm sorry.'" (*Politico*, 2/22/18)

RUBIO HAS PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED GUN CONTROL THROUGH HIS OPPOSITION TO GUNS IN CARS

In 2007, Rubio, Then Serving As Speaker, Delegated Authority To His Lieutenant Stan Mayfield Regarding NRA-Backed Legislation "That Would Allow Employees To Keep Guns In Their Cars At Work"; Rubio Backed Mayfield's Decision To Oppose The Bill

In 2007, Rubio, Then Serving As Speaker, Delegated Authority To His Lieutenant Stan Mayfield Regarding NRA-Backed Legislation "That Would Allow Employees To Keep Guns In Their Cars At Work"; Rubio Backed Mayfield's Decision To Oppose The Bill. "Though pitched as a move toward democratizing the House, it had a clear political benefit for Rubio: He could stay above the fray while his lieutenants tended to controversies. In 2007, for instance, the National Rifle Association pushed legislation that would allow employees to keep guns in their cars at work. Business groups opposed the measure. Rubio allowed Rep. Stan Mayfield, a top lieutenant and the chairman of the Environment and Natural Resources committee, to take the lead. Support for the bill had been shaky from the outset, but the measure became toxic after the Virginia Tech shooting, in which a student shot and killed 32 people on the college's campus. Despite intense pressure from the NRA, Mayfield opposed the bill. "Stan made sure the speaker understood where he stood," says Kevin Sweeny, a former Mayfield aide. "Speaker Rubio said, 'Stan, I trust you to do what is right.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/10)

RUBIO'S NOTABLE VULNERABILITIES WITH MODERATES

MODERATES COULD CONSIDER RUBIO AN EXTREMIST ON ABORTION

"Rubio Has Said If He Had His Way, He'd Prefer To Ban Almost All Abortions"

"Rubio Has Said If He Had His Way, He'd Prefer To Ban Almost All Abortions." "Murphy said, "Marco Rubio would take away a woman's right to choose for victims of rape or incest." Rubio has been a staunch opponent of abortion for years, but his position is subtly shaded. He thinks abortion should not be allowed unless the mother's life is endangered. But he is willing to support legislation that contains exceptions allowing the procedure for victims of rape and incest. He has backed measures both with and without exceptions. Rubio has said if he had his way, he'd prefer to ban almost all abortions. But his record shows he's willing to give at least a little ground on the issue, which Murphy has obscured in his ad. We rate the statement Mostly True." (Politifact, 9/23/16)

In 2022, Rubio Praised The Supreme Court For Voting To Overturn Roe V. Wade

In 2022, Rubio Praised The Supreme Court For Voting To Overturn Roe V. Wade. (Twitter, 6/24/22)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
Today the Supreme Court correctly returned the power to regulate abortion to the states.
I will soon introduce a proposal to support mothers and their babies so that every child has a real opportunity to pursue the promise of America.
10:37 AM · Jun 24, 2022
1.3K
1K
7.5K
25

(Twitter, 6/24/22)

Previously, In 2015, Rubio "[Called] The Supreme Court's Landmark Abortion Rights Decision In Roe V. Wade A 'Historically, Egregiously Flawed Decision' That 'Has Condoned The Taking Of Innocent Life On A Massive Scale'"

Previously, In 2015, "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) Laid Out His Strong Anti-Abortion Views In A Speech On Friday, Calling The Supreme Court's Landmark Abortion Rights Decision In Roe V. Wade A "Historically, Egregiously Flawed Decision" That "Has Condoned The Taking Of Innocent Life On A Massive Scale.'" "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) laid out his strong anti-abortion views in a speech on Friday, calling the Supreme Court's landmark abortion rights decision in Roe v. Wade a "historically, egregiously flawed decision" that "has condoned the taking of innocent life on a massive scale." "It is fundamentally impossible for America to

reach her destiny as a nation founded on the equal rights of all if our government believes an entire segment of the human population doesn't have a right to exist," the 2016 presidential candidate said at the National Right to Life Convention in New Orleans. The Supreme Court legalized abortion in the 1973 decision, ruling that states cannot prevent women from obtaining the procedure up until the fetus would be viable outside the womb, around 22 to 24 weeks of pregnancy. In the years before abortion was legal, it was common for women to land in the hospital after seeking illegal, "back-alley" abortions or attempting to self-induce. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that in 1972, the year before Roe v. Wade, 130,000 women obtained illegal or self-induced procedures, and 39 of them died. Republicans in Congress are currently trying to chip away at Roe v. Wade by banning abortion at 20 weeks of pregnancy. Rubio and nearly every other Republican presidential candidate has endorsed the legislation. Ten states have enacted similar abortion limits, and anti-abortion advocates hope one of the laws eventually makes its way to the Supreme Court and overturns Roe. Rubio said Friday that the issue of abortion is "more than political or policy-related. It is a definitional issue about the kind of country we want to be." According to a recent Gallup poll, half of Americans consider themselves "pro-choice," while 44 percent identify as "pro-life." But Rubio said he believes that nearly every American is personally opposed to the procedure, regardless of whether they think it should be legal. "You can judge a cause by the arguments made on both sides. For example, I rarely meet anyone who's willing to say they're pro-abortion," he said. "They'll say they're pro-choice, but almost everyone I've met says that they personally disagree with abortion. That alone tells us a little about the basic common sense the issue is built on.'" (Huffington Post, 7/10/15)

In 2011, Rubio Authored S 1241, The Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act

According To A CRS Report, Rubio's S 1241 Goes Further Than Similar Legislation By Restricting A Physician's Ability To Legally Perform An Abortion On A Minor

In 2011, Rubio Authored S 1241, The Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act. (S 1241, Introduced, United States Senate, 6/21/11, Rubio Authored)

- NOTE: "Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act - Amends the federal criminal code to prohibit transporting a minor child across a state line to obtain an abortion (deems such transporting to be a de facto abridgment of the right of a parent under any law in the minor's state of residence that requires parental involvement in the minor's abortion decision). Makes an exception for an abortion necessary to save the life of the minor." (S 1241)
- NOTE: "Makes it an affirmative defense to a prosecution or civil action under this Act that a defendant: (1) reasonably believed that before the minor obtained the abortion, the required parental consent or notification or judicial authorization took place; or (2) was presented with documentation showing that a court waived parental notification requirements or authorized the minor's abortion." (S 1241)
- NOTE: "Defines "abortion" as the termination of a pregnancy with an intention other than to increase the probability of a live birth, preserve the life or health of the child after live birth, remove a dead unborn child who died as the result of a spontaneous abortion,

accidental trauma, or a criminal assault on the pregnant female or her unborn child." (S 1241)

- NOTE: "Imposes a fine and/or prison term of up to one year on a physician who performs or induces an abortion on an out-of-state minor in violation of parental notification requirements. Requires such physician to give 24-hour actual or constructive notice to a parent of the minor seeking an abortion, subject to certain exceptions." (S 1241)

- **According To A CRS Report, Rubio's S 1241 Goes Further Than Similar Legislation By Restricting A Physician's Ability To Legally Perform An Abortion On A Minor.** "The Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act (CIANA), introduced as S. 1241 by Senator Marco Rubio on June 21, 2011, and as H.R. 2299 by Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen on June 22, 2011, would also prohibit the knowing transport of a minor across state lines with the intent that the minor obtain an abortion. Unlike the CCPA, however, the CIANA would also prohibit a physician from knowingly performing or inducing an abortion on a minor who is a resident of another state unless actual notice is provided to a parent of the minor at least 24 hours before performing the procedure. A physician who violated the notification requirement would be fined in accordance with Title 18 of the U.S. Code, imprisoned for not more than one year, or both. The notification requirement would not apply in certain specified situations, including instances where the minor declared in a signed written statement that she was the victim of sexual abuse, neglect, or physical abuse by a parent." ("Federal Legislation In The 112th Congress," Every CRS Report, Accessed 3/24)

According To A 2013 CBS News Report, Rubio Sought To Offer "Political Red Meat" To His Constituency With A "Federal Ban On Abortions 20 Weeks After Conception"

According To A 2013 CBS News Report, Rubio Sought To Offer "Political Red Meat" To His Constituency With A "Federal Ban On Abortions 20 Weeks After Conception." "Florida Senator Marco Rubio angered much of his conservative base by actively pushing bipartisan immigration reform. But now, he may be ready to give political red meat to the voters he alienated by introducing a far-reaching abortion ban in the Senate. According to the Weekly Standard, Senator Rubio will introduce a federal ban on abortions 20 weeks after conception. Rubio is expected to announce his sponsoring of the bill when Congress returns next week from the July 4th recess. A similar bill made it through the GOP-controlled House of Representatives last week, but even with Rubio expected to bring it up in the Senate, it's not expected to go anywhere. Rubio had an amendment rejected earlier this year that would have imposed new penalties for abortions performed on minors outside their home state, according to the Huffington Post. Rubio's move may not come with much fanfare because of the danger of abortion politics to the Republican Party as it tries to remake its image after the 2012 election failures." ("Report: Rubio Set To Introduce Abortion Ban," CBS News, 7/3/13)

CBS News: "Rubio Had An Amendment Rejected Earlier This Year That Would Have Imposed New Penalties For Abortions Performed On Minors Outside Their Home State"

CBS News: "Rubio Had An Amendment Rejected Earlier This Year That Would Have Imposed New Penalties For Abortions Performed On Minors Outside Their Home State". ("Report: Rubio Set To Introduce Abortion Ban," CBS News, 7/3/13)

Rubio, 2015: "People Should Hope That My Faith Influences My Political Position And In This Case I'm Proud To Say That My Faith Influences Me… It Teaches Me That God Knew Us When He Formed Us In The Womb… When There Is Conception That That Is A Human Life In The Early Stages Of Its Total Development That Is Worthy Of The Protection Of Our Laws"

Rubio, 2015: "People Should Hope That My Faith Influences My Political Position And In This Case I'm Proud To Say That My Faith Influences Me… It Teaches Me That God Knew Us When He Formed Us In The Womb… When There Is Conception That That Is A Human Life In The Early Stages Of Its Total Development That Is Worthy Of The Protection Of Our Laws." "Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio said his views on abortion – which were grilled Thursday night at the Republican field's first primary debate – are rooted in his faith and that's why he opposes abortion even in cases of rape or incest. "People should hope that my faith influences my political position and in this case I'm proud to say that my faith influences me," he told CNN's "New Day" on Friday. "It teaches me that God knew us when he formed us in the womb. … And even some human life that some scientist wants to have a debate about but I believe that science is clear. That when there is conception that that is a human life in the early stages of its total development that is worthy of the protection of our laws." CNN's Chris Cuomo asked the senator about co-sponsoring a previous bill that allowed abortions in instances of rape and incest victims – which Fox News debate moderator Megyn Kelly sharply questioned the Florida senator about on Thursday." ("Marco Rubio Defends Abortion Stance: Human Life Begins At Conception," CNN, 8/7/15)

In 2015, Rubio Expressed His Opposition To Abortion In Cases Of Rape And Incest, "I Personally Believe That You Do Not Correct One Tragedy With A Second Tragedy"

In 2015, Rubio Expressed His Opposition To Abortion In Cases Of Rape And Incest, "I Personally Believe That You Do Not Correct One Tragedy With A Second Tragedy." "Rubio, a conservative Catholic, said he is not in favor of abortion even in cases of rape or incest, a minority position even among anti-abortion voters. "I think both of those instances are horrifying and fortunately, they are extremely rare. It happens. And anytime it happens, it's horrifying and it's a tragedy," he said. "But I personally and honestly and deeply believe that all human life is worthy of protection irrespective of the circumstances, in which, that human life was created. I personally believe that you do not correct one tragedy with a second tragedy." The Florida senator has recently been vocal about his desire to see Planned Parenthood defunded following the release of videos accusing the group of illegally selling the organs and tissue of aborted fetuses. "Every single one of us started at that same stage. It can't become anything other than a human being. And it is neither up to you nor I nor any politician to decide that we're going to allow this life to move forward and this life not to," Rubio said. "Do you want to really

have a government in the decision of deciding what a human life is and what's not a human life?" Rubio pushed back on the idea that his abortion positions are radical and said that a high value of human life is a traditional view that resonates with most Americans and that should not change. "The value of life is timeless. The idea that a human life is worthy of the protection of our laws is not something that over time anyone should evolve on," he said." ("Marco Rubio Defends Abortion Stance: Human Life Begins At Conception," CNN, 8/7/15)

- **Rubio: "Every Single One Of Us Started At That Same Stage… The Value Of Life Is Timeless. The Idea That A Human Life Is Worthy Of The Protection Of Our Laws Is Not Something That Over Time Anyone Should Evolve On".** ("Marco Rubio Defends Abortion Stance: Human Life Begins At Conception," CNN, 8/7/15)
- **Rubio: "It Is Neither Up To You Nor I Nor Any Politician To Decide That We're Going To Allow This Life To Move Forward And This Life Not To… Do You Want To Really Have A Government In The Decision Of Deciding What A Human Life Is And What's Not A Human Life?"** ("Marco Rubio Defends Abortion Stance: Human Life Begins At Conception," CNN, 8/7/15)

Rubio, 2016: "All Human Life Is Worthy Of The Protection Of Our Laws. Even One Abortion Is Too Many"

Rubio, 2016: "All Human Life Is Worthy Of The Protection Of Our Laws. Even One Abortion Is Too Many." "For the first time ever, Planned Parenthood has endorsed someone for president in a primary. It is now abundantly clear that if Hillary Clinton is elected, she will pursue the most radical pro-abortion agenda in American history. She must be stopped. And with your help, she will be. All human life is worthy of the protection of our laws. Even one abortion is too many. Yet despite the fact that the pro-life movement continues to grow, we have not yet persuaded enough Americans to join the effort to protect life once and for all. If I am our party's nominee, I will work every day to change that. Throughout my time in public service, I have sought, whenever possible, to protect life. I've worked to prohibit abortion after twenty weeks, when science tells us an unborn child can feel pain. I've led the fight to require parental notification when a minor is taken across state lines for an abortion." ("Rubio Campaign Press Release - Marco Rubio: 'Even One Abortion Is Too Many'," American Presidency Project, 1/19/16)

In 2022, Rubio Described Abortion As Putting "Two Fundamental Rights In Conflict — The Right To Choose Of A Woman And The Right To Live Of An Unborn Human Being"

In 2022, Rubio Described Abortion As Putting "Two Fundamental Rights In Conflict — The Right To Choose Of A Woman And The Right To Live Of An Unborn Human Being." "What he said — "I am in favor of laws that protect human life. I do not believe that the dignity and the worth of human life is tied to the circumstances of their conception, but I recognize that's not a majority position," Rubio told DeFede. "This is not an easy issue. I never said this is an easy issue. It puts two fundamental rights in conflict — the right to choose of a woman and the right to live of an unborn human being."" ("Rubio Spells Out His Position On Abortion," Politico, 8/26/22)

Rubio: "I Do Not Believe That The Dignity And The Worth Of Human Life Is Tied To The Circumstances Of Their Conception"

Rubio: "I Do Not Believe That The Dignity And The Worth Of Human Life Is Tied To The Circumstances Of Their Conception". ("Rubio Spells Out His Position On Abortion," Politico, 8/26/22)

Rubio, 2023: "We Need To Tell The Truth About What Abortion Is — The Taking Of Innocent Life — And Advocate Limits To The Practice"

Rubio, 2023: "We Need To Tell The Truth About What Abortion Is — The Taking Of Innocent Life — And Advocate Limits To The Practice". "Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida has laid out a road map for Republicans to drive the abortion narrative away from Democrats, promote candidates at the ballot box and save the lives of the unborn. A key element of his strategy is to force Democrats on the defensive about their extreme left-wing agenda of no-limits abortion on demand. Mr. Rubio debuted his plan in a memo titled "Winning Pro-Life Strategy." He circulated it just before the annual March for Life rally in Washington on Friday and the anniversary Monday of the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. President Biden and other Democrats will use the anniversary to launch their pro-choice election-year offensive. Mr. Rubio said Republicans need to reset the debate on abortion. "First, we need to develop and fight for a compassionate, pro-family agenda that counters caricatures of our beliefs and makes life easier for mothers and their children," he said in the memo. "Second, we need to put Democrats on the defensive about their extreme support for abortion. "Third, we need to tell the truth about what abortion is — the taking of innocent life — and advocate limits to the practice," he said. Mr. Rubio is calling for a more holistic policy approach that combines the Republican Party's long-standing support of laws curbing abortion with a greater focus on supporting pregnant women. Republicans should rally behind paid parental leave at work, stronger child support enforcement, an enhanced child tax credit and more help for college students who get pregnant, he said. "Republicans will not be trusted unless our legislative agenda welcomes and supports life, while also opposing the injustice of abortion," Mr. Rubio said in his four-page memo. "This is the long-standing view of many pro-life and faith leaders, but it needs to become the dominant view of our party.'"" ("Marco Rubio Crafts Election-Year Blueprint For GOP's Abortion Agenda," Washington Times, 1/18/24)

- **Washington Times: "Mr. Rubio Is Calling For A More Holistic Policy Approach That Combines The Republican Party's Long-Standing Support Of Laws Curbing Abortion With A Greater Focus On Supporting Pregnant Women."** ("Marco Rubio Crafts Election-Year Blueprint For GOP's Abortion Agenda," Washington Times, 1/18/24)
- **Rubio: "Republicans Will Not Be Trusted Unless Our Legislative Agenda Welcomes And Supports Life, While Also Opposing The Injustice Of Abortion… This Is The Long-Standing View Of Many Pro-Life And Faith Leaders, But It Needs To Become The Dominant View Of Our Party."** ("Marco Rubio Crafts Election-Year Blueprint For GOP's Abortion Agenda," Washington Times, 1/18/24)

- **Rubio: "We Need To Put Democrats On The Defensive About Their Extreme Support For Abortion."** ("Marco Rubio Crafts Election-Year Blueprint For GOP's Abortion Agenda," Washington Times, 1/18/24)

RUBIO HAS A WELL-ESTABLISHED RECORD UTILIZING EXTREMIST RHETORIC WHEN DESCRIBING HIS ABORTION VIEWS

In 2022, Rubio "Seemed To Compare Abortion To Vehicular Manslaughter" Indicating Possible Support For Personhood Arguments

In 2022, Rubio "Seemed To Compare Abortion To Vehicular Manslaughter" Indicating Possible Support For Personhood Arguments. "In a virtual town hall Monday, Florida Republican Sen. Marco Rubio seemed to compare abortion to vehicular manslaughter "In most states in this country, if a drunk driver runs a red light and kills a pregnant woman, they are charged with two counts of vehicular manslaughter," Rubio told Florida attorney John Stemberger, leader of the Florida Family Policy Council, a Christian advocacy group. "One for the child and one for the mother. So we are already, in other areas of the law, recognize that that is a human life worthy of protection of our laws.'" (Vice News, 9/22/22)

- **"Granting Fetuses Full Rights And Protections—A Goal Of The So-Called "Fetal Personhood" Movement That Rubio Appears To Evoke In His Remarks—Could Also, In Some Cases, Mean That Those Rights Would Compete With Or Potentially Even Outstrip Those Of Pregnant People."** "As of 2018, at least 38 states had fetal homicide laws. Under Georgia's post-Roe abortion ban, for example, fetuses can now even be claimed as tax dependents. But granting fetuses full rights and protections—a goal of the so-called "fetal personhood" movement that Rubio appears to evoke in his remarks—could also, in some cases, mean that those rights would compete with or potentially even outstrip those of pregnant people. In Alabama, the first state in the country to adopt a "fetal personhood clause" in its constitution, a woman beat up her coworker, who shot her and ended her pregnancy. The woman was then indicted for manslaughter. (The case was ultimately dropped.) Compared to every other state, more women have now been arrested in Alabama for using drugs during pregnancy, according to reporting by the Marshall Project, the Frontier, and AL.com. "This is not just crazy theorizing," Lynn Paltrow, founder and executive director of National Advocates for Pregnant Women, told VICE News in 2018 of the fight over fetal personhood. "These arguments are already being made and used to control not just abortion but the lives and bodies of pregnant women now.'" (Vice News, 9/22/22)

In 2022, Rubio "Said That Abortion Ban Exceptions Meant To Protect The Health Of Pregnant People Are 'A Massive Loophole'"

In 2022, Rubio "Said That Abortion Ban Exceptions Meant To Protect The Health Of Pregnant People Are 'A Massive Loophole.'" "In his comments, captured on video obtained by VICE News, Rubio also said that abortion ban exceptions meant to protect the health of pregnant people are "a massive loophole." "They always say, 'with the exception of life or health of the mother,' and that 'or health' sounds good, but it's very nuanced. It's not throwaway line," he said. "What it means is, some doctor can come forward and say, 'Well, I know it's eight-a-

half months, I know that she's due next week, but I think this would be bad for her mental health, I think it would be bad for her spiritual health, for her psychological, if she went ahead.' I mean, it's a massive loophole.'" (Vice News, 9/22/22)

"Rubio Has Previously Said That He Personally Supports Abortion Restrictions That Don't Have Exceptions For Rape And Incest, Although He's Willing To Support Laws That Have Such Exceptions As Long As They Decrease Abortions"

"Rubio Has Previously Said That He Personally Supports Abortion Restrictions That Don't Have Exceptions For Rape And Incest, Although He's Willing To Support Laws That Have Such Exceptions As Long As They Decrease Abortions." "Rubio has previously said that he personally supports abortion restrictions that don't have exceptions for rape and incest, although he's willing to support laws that have such exceptions as long as they decrease abortions. But his remarks represent a new, further-right frontier in the senator's opposition to abortion—especially following the overturning of Roe v. Wade, when abortion bans are no longer a hypothetical possibility but a real restriction on millions of people's ability to end their pregnancies. They also come as many Republicans running for election, like Rubio, are trying to publicly downplay their position on abortion in the wake of the resounding defeat of an anti-abortion constitutional amendment in Kansas." (Vice News, 9/22/22)

In 2015, Rubio Rejected Notions That He Had Ever Favored Abortion Exceptions For Rape And Incest

In 2015, Rubio Rejected Notions That He Had Ever Favored Abortion Exceptions For Rape And Incest. "During an Aug. 6, 2015, Republican debate in Cleveland, Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly pointed out Rubio favored a rape and incest exception to abortion bans, which Rubio refuted. "I have never said that. And I have never advocated that," Rubio said. "What I have advocated is that we pass law in this country that says all human life at every stage of its development is worthy of protection. In fact, I think that law already exists. It is called the Constitution of the United States." Rubio reiterated this view after that debate on Glenn Beck's radio show, saying he personally supported banning abortion unless the mother's life was endangered. "Now I recognize that other people don't hold that view, and in order to save lives in this country, I have supported bills that had to have exceptions in them," he told Beck." (Politifact, 9/23/16)

However, "Rubio Has Supported Legislation That Contained Rape And Incest Exceptions At Least Twice"

However, "Rubio Has Supported Legislation That Contained Rape And Incest Exceptions At Least Twice." "Now back to running for re-election to the U.S. Senate, Rubio has supported legislation that contained rape and incest exceptions at least twice. Back in November 2013, he was one of 40 cosponsors for a Senate bill called the "Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act." The bill, which stalled in committee, banned abortions at 20 weeks or greater but includes exceptions, including rape and incest. Rubio also cosponsored a similar version in 2015 that required adult women to obtain counseling or medical treatment for the rape 48 hours before the abortion, with separate criteria for minors about reporting the rape to law enforcement." (Politifact, 9/23/16)

Rubio Has Used Extremist Rhetoric And Positions To Block Abortion For Women With Zika

In 2016, Rubio Confirmed That He Would Not Support Allowing Abortion For Women Infected With Zika Even Though The Virus Has Been Seen To Cause Severe Microcephaly In Fetuses. "U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy said Sen. Marco Rubio has a zero-compromise position on abortion. In a new campaign ad that started appearing Sept. 20, 2016, Murphy's campaign said Rubio, the Republican incumbent, refuses to give ground on the issue, even in extenuating circumstances. "Marco Rubio would take away a woman's right to choose for victims of rape or incest," the ad said. It included video of Rubio saying, "I don't require there to be an exception for rape or incest." Murphy has faced criticism that he's a conservative in Democrat's clothing, so his ad touted his own support for abortion. The ad goes on to say Rubio wouldn't allow the procedure for pregnant women with Zika. Rubio has previously confirmed he would oppose allowing a woman who has contracted the virus to abort a fetus that potentially had severe microcephaly. He said he preferred "to err on the side of life" rather than allow the procedure." (Politifact, 9/23/16)

Rubio Has Used Extremist Rhetoric And Positions To Attack Pro-Choice Advocates

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Called Pro-Choice Advocates "Barbarians" And Murderers Noting "I Think Future Generations Will Look Back At This History Of Our Country And Call Us Barbarians For Murdering Millions Of Babies." (Facebook, 8/6/15)


Fox News
Sen. Marco Rubio on abortion: "I think future generations will look back at this history of our country and call us barbarians for murdering millions of babies..." #GOPDebate
FOX NEWS
29K
2.9K comments 5K shares

(Facebook, 8/6/15)

RUBIO IS KNOWN TO OPPOSE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Rubio Is Known To Have Been Opposed To Gay Marriage

Rubio Is Known To Have Been Opposed To Gay Marriage. "Abortion: Pro-life. Supports bill to require doctors to perform an ultrasound before an abortion. Gay marriage: Opposes it. Immigration: Supports Arizona's immigration bill, opposed counting illegal immigrants in the U.S. Census. Off-shore drilling: In favor of oil drilling off Florida coasts. Stem cell research: Would ban taxpayer dollars to pay for stem cell research. Supreme Court nominees: Opposed Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

In 2014, "Rubio Acknowledged Growing Public Support For Same-Sex Marriage And Said States Should Decide. To That Extent, He Is Willing To Put Aside His Own Moral Views If A State's Voters See Otherwise"

In 2014, "Rubio Acknowledged Growing Public Support For Same-Sex Marriage And Said States Should Decide. To That Extent, He Is Willing To Put Aside His Own Moral Views If A State's Voters See Otherwise." "A fresh example of the Rubio dichotomy came last month at Catholic University in Washington. Near the end of a speech on policies emphasizing family values — itself a study in nuance — Rubio turned to gay marriage. He adamantly said he believes it should be between a man and a woman and bashed "intolerant" critics of traditionalists. But Rubio acknowledged growing public support for same-sex marriage and said states should decide. To that extent, he is willing to put aside his own moral views if a state's voters see otherwise. "Many committed gay and lesbian couples feel humiliated by the law's failure to recognize their relationship as a marriage," Rubio said. "And supporters of same-sex marriage argue that laws banning same-sex marriage are discrimination. I respect their arguments. And I would concede that they pose a legitimate question for lawmakers and for society." News coverage was confusing, some reporters playing up the angle that Rubio was courting religious conservatives in places such as Iowa and South Carolina, two early presidential testing grounds, and others taking note of the more inclusive tone. "He definitely seems to want it both ways and talks a good game in terms of wanting you to have warm thoughts about him," said Fred Sainz of Human Rights Campaign. "But at the end of the day, if he had to choose up sides, he chooses on the wrong side of history." Public support for gay marriage is growing nationally, especially among young voters, one of the key demographics the GOP needs attract. Rubio last week waded into the marijuana debate, saying he supported the use of noneuphoric strains for medical needs. Another small step to the middle." (*Tampa Bay Times*, 8/1/14)

In 2015, "Rubio Disagreed With The Supreme Court Decision Legalizing Same-Sex Unions In All Fifty States But Said That Americans Must Abide By The Ruling. Personally, The Florida Senator Told CNN That He Believes Marriage Is Between A Man And A Woman"

In 2015, "Rubio Disagreed With The Supreme Court Decision Legalizing Same-Sex Unions In All Fifty States But Said That Americans Must Abide By The Ruling. Personally, The

Florida Senator Told CNN That He Believes Marriage Is Between A Man And A Woman." (PBS, 4/13/15)

In 2022, Rubio "Told CNN That A Vote On A Bill To Codify Same-Sex Marriage Was A 'Stupid Waste Of Time'"

In 2022, Rubio "Told CNN That A Vote On A Bill To Codify Same-Sex Marriage Was A 'Stupid Waste Of Time.'" "As he was walking on an elevator on Wednesday, GOP Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida told CNN that a vote on a bill to codify same-sex marriage was a "stupid waste of time." But when he said that, there was another senator on the elevator who heard him: Sen. Tammy Baldwin, the Wisconsin Democrat who is also the first known gay politician elected to the US Senate. "You probably would have loved to be on the elevator to see the exchange after," Baldwin told CNN on Thursday, adding: "of course I did" speak to him about the remark. "I said that, 'The recent Supreme Court decision eroded a constitutional right to privacy. There's a whole bunch of cases that have been decided based on a constitutional right to privacy that are in jeopardy,' which he disagrees with. And anyways, I said we'll be talking some more," she said. Baldwin did not reveal what Rubio said in response. She also would not say if she was offended by his remark. "We're not going to get into (that)," Baldwin said. "I'm counting votes." Baldwin also predicted they would have 10 GOP votes to break a filibuster attempt when the bill eventually heads the floor. Rubio and other Republican senators argued that the bill is "unnecessary" because there's no threat to same-sex marriage, as the majority Supreme Court opinion from Justice Samuel Alito attempted to wall off its ruling on abortion from other rulings involving the right to privacy like same-sex marriage. In a separate concurrent opinion, however, Justice Clarence Thomas wrote separately to call explicitly for those other rulings to be revisited." (CNN, 7/21/22)

RUBIO OPPOSED ADOPTION BY GAY FOSTER PARENTS

In 2006, Rubio Opposed Proposals To Allow For Gay Foster Parents And Derided The Proposal As A "Social Experiment" On Children

In 2006, Rubio Opposed Proposals To Allow For Gay Foster Parents And Derided The Proposal As A "Social Experiment" On Children. "Marco Rubio is having a moment for some reason. Sure, the Florida senator and Republican presidential hopeful is running a distant third and has only picked up a single point in the polls since October. But an influential pocket of the punditry decided long ago that Rubio is the invisible front-runner, the candidate who will surge when Donald Trump and Ted Cruz do whatever Alien and Predator did to each other at the end of Alien vs. Predator. Since Rubio has been anointed the establishment candidate, able to bridge the rabid base and the moderate moneymen, it is probably worth noting that he is strikingly anti-gay—much more so than Trump, and at least as much as Cruz. The story of Rubio's homophobic misdeeds reaches back to 2006. Florida's foster care system was in crisis. Faced with too many children and too few foster parents, the Department of Children and Family Services allowed a contractor to force abused and neglected children to sleep on the floor of a conference room at a DCF building for several days. These children had suffered severe physical harm and psychological trauma before entering the foster system—and DCF made them live and sleep in a conference room together without beds, bedding, supervision, medical care, sanitary

bathrooms, or adequate food. (The children, represented by an attorney, successfully sued DCF shortly thereafter.) Obviously, DCF's actions were inexcusable: The agency essentially permitted children to be imprisoned in inhumane conditions. (I've visited the building where the children were kept. It is not dissimilar to a minimum-security prison.) But the scandal raised a broader issue: Florida simply didn't have enough foster parents to take in all these abused and abandoned children. What to do? One option frequently floated was to expand the pool of potential fosterers and adopters by allowing same-sex couples to take in children. The Florida legislature banned gay adoption in 1977, but times had changed, and the pressure on the foster care system had grown untenable. Would the legislature reconsider the ban? Rubio, who was then serving as the Florida House majority leader, instantly and emphatically quashed the idea. "Some of these kids are the most disadvantaged in the state," he said. "They shouldn't be forced to be part of a social experiment." Rubio, in other words, would rather see the children languish in the flawed foster care system than allow same-sex couples to take them in. The ban remained in effect until 2010, when a court finally struck it down." (Slate, 12/15/15)

RUBIO OPPOSED THE LARGEST PROPOSALS FOR HURRICANE SANDY RELIEF

In 2012, Rubio Voted Against The Larger Proposals For Hurricane Sandy Aid

In 2012, Rubio Voted Against The Larger Proposals For Hurricane Sandy Aid. "Hurrianne Sandy made landfall Oct. 29, 2012, and devastated portions of the East Coast, including New York and New Jersey. The path to passing a relief package was slower than after Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana and Mississippi in 2005. Following Hurricane Sandy, President Barack Obama had just been elected to a second term and conservative Republicans elected in a tea party wave in 2010, and then in 2012, were looking for ways to curb spending. On Dec. 7, Obama requested $60.4 billion in emergency appropriations. Three weeks later, the Democratic-led Senate voted 62-32 to approve it, with Rubio voting against. Twelve Republicans joined the Democrats in voting for the bill. Republicans then countered with a stripped-down alternative of $24 billion, which Rubio supported but which failed on a party-line vote. Rubio said he voted against the larger bill because it contained "unrelated pork." ("Pork" or "pork barrel" spending is government spending for localized projects secured primarily or solely for bringing money to political representatives' districts.) There was funding for many things in the $60.4 billion package, including money for a declared fishery disaster in Alaska, Ellis said. But nearly everything had some relationship to a disaster — not only Sandy — although some were more tenuous than others. "The question is did it have to be funded in an emergency supplemental" meaning it would allow lawmakers to evade budget caps, Ellis said. "And the question for Sen. Rubio and every other senator, is how much is too much extra stuff and what is the alternative." Then-House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, sought to divide the relief funding. FEMA warned that it would run out of money in January if Congress didn't provide additional borrowing authority to pay claims. The first vote, a $9.7 billion measure, passed the House on Jan. 4. DeSantis, a newly sworn-in congressman, was one of 67 House Republicans who voted against the bill. DeSantis said he sympathized with victims and that those with flood insurance should have their claims paid. But he said that "allowing the program to increase its debt by another $9.7 billion with no plan to offset the spending with cuts elsewhere is not fiscally responsible."

The funding passed the Senate in a voice vote, in which individual senators' votes are not recorded. Rubio spokesman Alex Conant told the Tampa Bay Times that Rubio supported it, calling it a "clean" appropriation. Obama signed the measure into law. The second part of the disaster relief, a bill for $50.5 billion, passed the Senate Jan. 28, 2013, 62-36 largely along party lines. Rubio voted against the bill and DeSantis voted against the measure that passed in the House. Obama signed it into law." (Politifact, 9/30/22)

RUBIO SUPPORTED LETTING THE ETHANOL MANDATE EXPIRE

In 2015, "Republican Presidential Candidate Marco Rubio Says He Supports The So-Called Ethanol Mandate — Now That It's In Place, But He Favors Letting It Expire Seven Years From Now"

In 2015, "Republican Presidential Candidate Marco Rubio Says He Supports The So-Called Ethanol Mandate — Now That It's In Place, But He Favors Letting It Expire Seven Years From Now." "Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio says he supports the so-called ethanol mandate — now that it's in place, but he favors letting it expire seven years from now. "The Renewable Fuels Standard is not something that I would have voted for had I been in the senate, but it is now existing law and I think it would be unfair to simply yank it away from people that have made investments based on its existence," Rubio says. "So my argument is we should allow it to continue until it expires and hopefully by then the industry will be able to sustain itself." The Renewable Fuels Standard is set to end in 2022. The Obama Administration has a November 30th deadline to release the federally-required ethanol production levels not only for 2016, but this year and last year, too, since previous deadlines were missed. Rubio has just wrapped up a five-day tour of the state. During a stop this week in Carroll, Rubio argued expanding overseas trade is important to rural America. Rubio, who is a senator from Florida, says the Trans Pacific Partnership could unlock consumer markets like Japan where some U.S. agricultural products aren't sold. "I've seen the impact that the South Korean deal has had on Florida citrus," Rubio says. "It's been very positive for Florida citrus growers and I would imagine that to open it up to all of the Asia-Pacific region to more export would be more profitable not just to them, but to all agriculture across the country." Rubio isn't commiting to voting for the trade agreement, though. "I support free trade," Rubio says. "I want to support a Trans Pacific Partnership. Whether this specific one they've negotiated is the right one for our country, we're in the process of reviewing that." Congress must vote to either ratify or reject the Trans Pacific Partnership. A date for that vote is not yet scheduled." (Radio Iowa, 11/25/15)

CRITICS COULD SUGGEST THAT RUBIO DEFUNDED SCHOOLS IN HIS OWN STATE LEGISLATIVE REGION

"A Major Policy Shift In Rubio's First Six Years (It Probably Cannot Be Called An Accomplishment) Was A Tweak To The State's School Financing Formula That Resulted In The Shift Of Tens Of Millions Of Dollars Annually From Schools In South Florida—Including Rubio's Miami-Dade County—To Schools In North And Central Florida. As A Future Speaker, Rubio Had Considerable Influence In This Legislation, But He Refused To Go To The Mat For His Hometown Schools"

"A Major Policy Shift In Rubio's First Six Years (It Probably Cannot Be Called An Accomplishment) Was A Tweak To The State's School Financing Formula That Resulted In The Shift Of Tens Of Millions Of Dollars Annually From Schools In South Florida—Including Rubio's Miami-Dade County—To Schools In North And Central Florida. As A Future Speaker, Rubio Had Considerable Influence In This Legislation, But He Refused To Go To The Mat For His Hometown Schools." "Indeed, a major policy shift in Rubio's first six years (it probably cannot be called an accomplishment) was a tweak to the state's school financing formula that resulted in the shift of tens of millions of dollars annually from schools in South Florida—including Rubio's Miami-Dade County—to schools in North and Central Florida. As a future speaker, Rubio had considerable influence in this legislation, but he refused to go to the mat for his hometown schools. Democrats and even some South Florida Republicans attributed this to his needing speakership votes from North and Central Florida Republican members who argued that higher costs of living should not justify higher teacher salaries. (They said South Florida's better "amenities," like its beaches, were reward enough for teachers who chose to live and work there.) Rubio defended his stance, arguing that he had an obligation to look out for the whole state, not just his region, and that, besides, South Florida schools had gotten the best deal they were going to get." (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

RUBIO ADVOCATED ON BEHALF OF THE FOR-PROFIT COMPANY OPERATING CORINTHIAN COLLEGES

In 2014, "Senator Marco Rubio Of Florida Asked The U.S. Department Of Education To 'Demonstrate Leniency' Toward Corinthian Colleges By Permitting The Wealthy For-Profit Company To Continue Accessing Millions Of Dollars In Federal Financial Aid While It Was Cooperating With A Federal Investigation"

In 2014, "Senator Marco Rubio Of Florida Asked The U.S. Department Of Education To 'Demonstrate Leniency' Toward Corinthian Colleges By Permitting The Wealthy For-Profit Company To Continue Accessing Millions Of Dollars In Federal Financial Aid While It Was Cooperating With A Federal Investigation." (*Bloomberg*, 4/29/15)

"Ten Months Later, The Company Shuttered Its Remaining 28 Campuses, Instantly Displacing Some 16,000 Students Just Days After It Was Fined $30 Million By The

Department Of Education For A Scheme Involving "Confirmed Cases Of Misrepresentation Of Job Placement Rates" For As Many As 947 Students. The Decision To Close Shop Came After Years Of Federal And State Investigations Into The Company"

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"Corinthian Colleges Contributed $5,000 To Rubio's Reclaim America PAC During The 2014 Election Cycle, According To The Center For Responsive Politics, A Nonpartisan Organization That Tracks Political Donations"

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RUBIO'S ETHICAL QUALMS AND QUESTIONABLE LEADERSHIP

RUBIO APPEARS TO EMPLOY LITERARY AGENTS WHO HAVE WORKED WITH AND HELPED PUBLISH BOOKS BY ANTI-TRUMP ACTIVISTS, JOURNALISTS, AND DEMOCRATS

In 2022, Rubio Declared He Received $30,000 In Royalties From The Javelin Group LLC

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(2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

Part 2. Earned and Non-Investment Income

Did you or your spouse have reportable earned income or non-investment income? **Yes**

#	Who Was Paid	Type	Who Paid	Amount Paid
1	Self	Salary	Florida International University Miami, FL	$19,307.93
2	Self	Royalties	Javelin Group LLC Alexandria, VA	$30,000.00

(2022 Personal Financial Disclosure, Clerk Of The U.S. Senate, Filed 5/15/23)

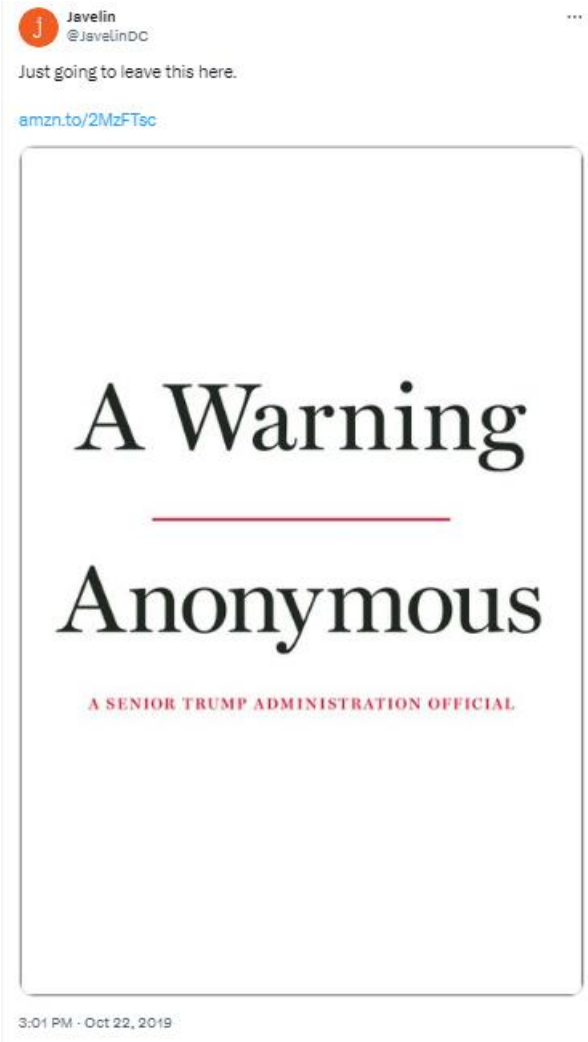
The Javelin Group Was Co-Founded By Matt Latimer, A Literary Agent, Who Published "A Warning," The Then-Anonymously Published Book Critical Of The Trump Administration; The Book Was Later Revealed To Have Been Published By Miles Taylor

The Javelin Group Was Co-Founded By Matt Latimer, A Literary Agent, Who Published "A Warning," The Then-Anonymously Published Book Critical Of The Trump Administration; The Book Was Later Revealed To Have Been Published By Miles Taylor.
"An anonymous senior administration official plans to publish a book next month that will serve as a "warning" about President Donald Trump's presidency. The author — who will publish the book anonymously — is represented by Matt Latimer, a literary agent and lawyer. His agency Javelin tweeted out a link to the book, simply called A Warning, to a pre-order page on Amazon. It has a publication date of November 19, and the book is described as "an unprecedented behind-the-scenes portrait of the Trump presidency from the anonymous senior official whose first words of warning about the president rocked the nation's capital." The author is described as "a senior official in the Trump administration" and will offer "a firsthand account of one of the most consequential presidencies in American history." The unnamed author also penned an op-ed in The New York Times last year that created a sensation, according to CNN, which first reported plans to publish the book. The anonymous official wrote that "many of the senior officials in his own administration are working diligently from within to frustrate parts of his agenda and his worst inclinations." Trump reacted by calling the author "treasonous," and

demanded that then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions try to find out the writer's identity." (Ted Johnson, "Anonymous Senior Official To Publish Tell-All Book On Donald Trump," *Deadline*, 10/22/19)

In October 2019, Javelin Tweeted "Just Going To Leave This Here," Promoting The Book

In October 2019, Javelin Tweeted "Just Going To Leave This Here," Promoting The Book. (Twitter, 10/22/19)



(Twitter, 10/22/19)

In December 2023, Javelin Tweeted "We Agreed With President Obama," Who Called Tim Alberta's Book One Of His Favorites Of The Year

In December 2023, Javelin Tweeted "We Agreed With President Obama," Who Called Tim Alberta's Book One Of His Favorites Of The Year. (Twitter, 12/22/23)


Javelin @JavelinDC · Dec 22, 2023
We agree with President Obama. @TimAlberta 's book is a must-read!
Barack Obama @BarackObama · Dec 22, 2023
As I usually do during this time of year, I wanted to share my favorite books, movies, and music of 2023.
First up, here are the books I've enjoyed reading. If you're looking for a new book over the holidays, give one of them a try. And if you can, sho...
Show more
BARACK OBAMA'S
FAVORITE BOOKS OF 2023
THE HEAVEN & EARTH GROCERY STORE
James McBride
THE MANIAC
Benjamin Labatut
POVERTY, BY AMERICA*
Matthew Desmond
HOW TO SAY BABYLON
Safiya Sinclair
THE WAGER*
David Grann
CHIP WAR
Chris Miller
THE VASTER WILDS
Lauren Groff
HUMANLY POSSIBLE
Sarah Bakewell
KING: A LIFE*
Jonathan Eig
THE COVENANT OF WATER
Abraham Verghese
THE BEST MINDS
Jonathan Rosen
ALL THE SINNERS BLEED*
S.A. Cosby
THE KINGDOM, THE POWER, AND THE GLORY
Tim Alberta
SOME PEOPLE NEED KILLING
Patricia Evangelista
THIS OTHER EDEN
Paul Harding
*Books that also appeared on my Summer Reading List
357

(Twitter, 12/22/23)

In May 2023, Javelin Tweeted "Happy Publication Day" To Keith Ellison

In May 2023, Javelin Tweeted "Happy Publication Day" To Keith Ellison. (Twitter, 5/23/23)


Javelin @JavelinDC · May 23, 2023
Happy publication day to AG @keithellison! His highly readable book on the Derek Chauvin trial and thoughts on America's way forward already has won rave reviews. Buy your copy today!
Top prosecutor in trial of officer who killed George Floyd writes book recounting...
From apnews.com
233

(Twitter, 5/23/23)

RUBIO'S FORMER EMPLOYER LOBBIED ON BEHALF OF QATAR

In March 2022, Rubio's Former Employer, Becker & Poliakoff, Registered To Lobby On Behalf Of The Qatar

In March 2022, Rubio's Former Employer, Becker & Poliakoff, Registered To Lobby On Behalf Of The Qatar. (FARA, Filed 3/7/22)

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Exhibit A to Registration Statement Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended

INSTRUCTIONS. Furnish this exhibit for EACH foreign principal listed in an initial statement and for EACH additional foreign principal acquired subsequently. The filing of this document requires the payment of a filing fee as set forth in Rule (d)(1), 28 C.F.R. § 5.5(d)(1). Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit A form at https://www.fara.gov.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required by the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide this information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the FARA Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the FARA Unit's webpage: https://www.fara.gov. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: https://www.fara.gov.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .22 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, FARA Unit, Counterintelligence and Export Control Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant	2. Registration Number
Becker & Poliakoff	7089

3. Primary Address of Registrant
1275 K St NW Ste 850, Washington, DC 20005

4. Name of Foreign Principal	5. Address of Foreign Principal
Embassy of Qatar	2555 M Street NW Washigmton, DC QATAR 20037

6. Country/Region Represented
QATAR

1. Name of Registrant	2. Registration Number
Becker & Poliakoff	7089

3. Name of Foreign Principal
Embassy of Qatar

Check Appropriate Box:

4. ☐ The agreement between the registrant and the above-named foreign principal is a formal written contract. If this box is checked, attach a copy of the contract to this exhibit.

5. ☐ There is no formal written contract between the registrant and the foreign principal. The agreement with the above-named foreign principal has resulted from an exchange of correspondence. If this box is checked, attach a copy of all pertinent correspondence, including a copy of any initial proposal which has been adopted by reference in such correspondence.

6. ☒ The agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal is the result of neither a formal written contract nor an exchange of correspondence between the parties. If this box is checked, give a complete description below of the terms and conditions of the oral agreement or understanding, its duration, the fees and expenses, if any, to be received.

7. What is the date of the contract or agreement with the foreign principal? 07/01/2021

8. Describe fully the nature and method of performance of the above indicated agreement or understanding.

Becker will provide the State of Qatar government relations with services with regard to bilateral issues pertaining to the relationship between the State of Qatar and the United States. Such services may include outreach to the United States Congress the Executive Branch and business leaders.

(FARA, Filed 3/7/22)

RUBIO IS TIED TO VARIOUS MISUSES OF TAXPAYER FUNDS

Rubio "Double-Billed Taxpayers For Flights Paid For By A Political Group, In His Case The Republican Party Of Florida. When The Matter Was Brought To Rubio's Attention During His 2010 Senate Race, Rubio Told The Miami Herald And St. Petersburg Times That It Was An Error, And He Agreed To Pay Back The Party $2,400"

Rubio "Double-Billed Taxpayers For Flights Paid For By A Political Group, In His Case The Republican Party Of Florida. When The Matter Was Brought To Rubio's Attention During His 2010 Senate Race, Rubio Told The Miami Herald And St. Petersburg Times That It Was An Error, And He Agreed To Pay Back The Party $2,400." "Throughout the investigations, Rivera denied to reporters that he was the subject of the probes — even while a defense lawyer was negotiating with investigators on his behalf. A Florida judge in the civil ethics case concerning Rivera's finances determined that he "corruptly" failed to disclose his income and double-billed taxpayers for travel paid by a political committee associated with him. On March 5, the judge recommended a nearly $58,000 fine against Rivera. The ethics commission will take up the case April 17, just as Rubio might be running for president. Like Rivera, Rubio also double-billed taxpayers for flights paid for by a political group, in his case the Republican Party of Florida. When the matter was brought to Rubio's attention during his 2010 Senate race, Rubio told The Miami Herald and St. Petersburg Times that it was an error, and he agreed to pay back the party $2,400." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

In 2006, Rubio Was Reported To Have "Spent About $400,000 In Tax Dollars To Remodel Offices And Build A Members-Only Dining Room So Lawmakers Rushing To Meetings Or In The Throes Of Negotiations Would Not Have To Leave The Capitol To Eat"

In 2006, Rubio Was Reported To Have "Spent About $400,000 In Tax Dollars To Remodel Offices And Build A Members-Only Dining Room So Lawmakers Rushing To Meetings Or In The Throes Of Negotiations Would Not Have To Leave The Capitol To Eat." "In August 2006, before he was officially sworn in as speaker, Rubio did order some renovations to the House. The Times/Herald story the Democrats linked to noted, "When Rubio became speaker, he spent about $400,000 in tax dollars to remodel offices and build a members-only dining room so lawmakers rushing to meetings or in the throes of negotiations would not have to leave the Capitol to eat." The story was written before renovations were complete. The West Miami Republican said he sought to "decentralize the power of the speakership from being some imperial position to being more of a manager of the process." That involved moving some offices around inside the Capitol. He wanted the clerk and sergeant-at-arms moved from the fourth floor to the fifth floor, which pushed the House rules and calendar council to the 12th floor. Rubio also wanted the budget and policy committees together, and did have a members-only dining room built. A dining area just for lawmakers raised some eyebrows at the time. While the Capitol had a public cafeteria and separate snack bar, some critics wondered if a

private room was an excuse for lawmakers to meet away from where public records laws could find them. (The dining room was built, and is still there.)" (Politifact, 11/9/15)

"In All, Rubio Ordered Almost $560,000 In Renovations, According To Records From The Speaker's Office"

"In All, Rubio Ordered Almost $560,000 In Renovations, According To Records From The Speaker's Office." "In all, Rubio ordered almost $560,000 in renovations, according to records from the Speaker's Office. There were some rumblings that a state representative so opposed to taxes and government waste — in 2006 he published his book 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future — shouldn't have been spending that kind of money. But is that a lot? Consider that his predecessor Allan Bense only spent $1,500, according to the Times/Herald. On the high end, John Thrasher spent almost $7 million in 1999 to renovate the House chamber, the speaker's office and the House office building. Former Speaker Daniel Webster spent about $100,000 in 1997 to build a spiral staircase between the Speaker's Office and the Republican Majority Office. Rubio closed the staircase. The leader of the House Democrats at the time, Rep. Dan Gelber of Miami Beach, acknowledged the spending but didn't make it an issue, instead praising Rubio for including Democrats in new committee suites. "I think the speaker has a prerogative to spend his budget as he sees fit," he said at the time." (Politifact, 11/9/15)

"Rubio's Spending Not Only Exceeded His Predecessor's, It Was Also At Odds With His Image As A Conservative Champion Of Small Government. The Irony Of Rubio Seemingly Violating The First Principle Of His 100 Ideas Manifesto 'Do Not Unnecessarily Expand The Role Of Government' Was Media Fodder For Weeks"

"Rubio's Spending Not Only Exceeded His Predecessor's, It Was Also At Odds With His Image As A Conservative Champion Of Small Government. The Irony Of Rubio Seemingly Violating The First Principle Of His 100 Ideas Manifesto "Do Not Unnecessarily Expand The Role Of Government" Was Media Fodder For Weeks." "The incoming speaker also spent more than $500,000 on renovations, including a private dining room for lawmakersa necessity, he said, to help members eat without being hounded by lobbyists. Justified or not, all of this spending was a public-relations disaster. (Later, Rubio would also face criticism for using a state GOP credit card for personal expenses; he said the charges were mistakes that he ultimately covered himself.) While most new speakers allocate money to renovate their offices, Rubio's spending not only exceeded his predecessor's, it was also at odds with his image as a conservative champion of small government. The irony of Rubio seemingly violating the first principle of his 100 Ideas manifesto"Do not unnecessarily expand the role of government"was media fodder for weeks. "What happened to smaller government?" asked a December 2006 headline in the Miami Herald. "Memo to Mr. Rubio," the Orlando Sentinel declared. "You were chosen by your colleagues to be speaker of the House, not governor." "Marco, unlike Jeb, is not afraid of a collaborative process," says one Democratic House colleague." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

As Speaker, Rubio Budgeted $2 Million To Grow His Payroll By 20 New Jobs, Mostly Stocked By Jeb Bush Aides

As Speaker, Rubio Budgeted $2 Million To Grow His Payroll By 20 New Jobs, Mostly Stocked By Jeb Bush Aides. "Weeks later, as Rubio prepared to take over the speaker's chair,

he raised hackles by budgeting $2.5 million to redecorate the office and to gift supporters with 20 new jobs. His chief of staff received $175,212; his spokesman and deputy chief of staff each got $119,484. And Ken Sorensen, an ally who had been term-limited out of the House, landed $100,000 to show new lawmakers around the capital. Despite that largesse, Rubio began a hard turn to the right on financial issues — a shift that planted the seed for his Tea Party campaign to come." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

"In The Final Months Of Bush's Tenure In 2006, Rubio Had Fired Nearly A Dozen Veteran House Staffers And Spent $2 Million To Hire Some Of Bush's Closest Advisers, Including His Budget Director, Chief Economist, And Transportation Guru"

"In The Final Months Of Bush's Tenure In 2006, Rubio Had Fired Nearly A Dozen Veteran House Staffers And Spent $2 Million To Hire Some Of Bush's Closest Advisers, Including His Budget Director, Chief Economist, And Transportation Guru." "AS HE HAD PUT the pieces of his speakership in place, Rubio had seemed to be trying to claim Jeb Bush's mantle for himself. In the final months of Bush's tenure in 2006, Rubio had fired nearly a dozen veteran House staffers and spent $2 million to hire some of Bush's closest advisers, including his budget director, chief economist, and transportation guru. In fact, Rubio hired so many Bush aides18 in allthat capital insiders began calling his suite "the governor's office in exile." His chief of staff, Richard Corcoran, was paid $175,212$46,000 more than the governor. (Rubio argued that the House had to pay competitive salaries to retain top experts.)" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

RUBIO IS TIED TO A PREVIOUS MISUSE OF THE FLORIDA GOP CREDIT CARD

NOTE: In 2015, Trump Slammed Rubio Describing Him As A "A Disaster With His Credit Cards"

NOTE: In 2015, Trump Slammed Rubio Describing Him As A "A Disaster With His Credit Cards." "When asked about his numerous money woes at the last Republican debate, Marco Rubio dismissed them as "discredited attacks from Democrats and my political opponents." He then pivoted to discussing his humble upbringing and solidarity with middle-class Americans, which was enough to shake off moderator Becky Quick. Yet, the controversy surrounding Rubio's financial background — including his misuse of a Republican Party credit card, problems with his homes, and the liquidation of his retirement account — has only intensified in the past week. Donald Trump, who's yet to settle on the perfect Rubio insult, tried calling his rival "a disaster with his credit cards," and journalists from across the political spectrum noted that the criticism of Rubio's finances is far from "discredited." The pressure grew so intense that Rubio promised to release records from his time in Florida's House of Representatives "in the next few weeks." A Rubio campaign aide claimed, "our plan has always been to release these," but that's dubious since journalists have been trying to obtain the files for a decade." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

On A State GOP-Issued American Express Credit Card, "Rubio Racked Up About $100,000 In Charges For Meals And Travel As Well As A Few Groceries, A Family Minivan Repair, A Salon Expense And Even A Family Vacation In Georgia"

On A State GOP-Issued American Express Credit Card, "Rubio Racked Up About $100,000 In Charges For Meals And Travel As Well As A Few Groceries, A Family Minivan Repair, A Salon Expense And Even A Family Vacation In Georgia." "During the 2010 campaign, Rubio's state GOP-issued American Express bills from 2005-08 were obtained by the Herald. In all, Rubio racked up about $100,000 in charges for meals and travel as well as a few groceries, a family minivan repair, a salon expense and even a family vacation in Georgia. Rubio said at the time that most of the charges were for party-building reasons and that any personal charges rung up on the cards — such as the Georgia trip — were paid directly to the credit-card company by him. In some cases, Rubio said, his travel agent made an error by using the wrong card. Other times, he acknowledged he did the same thing, as at a home-improvement store. "For example, I pulled the wrong card from my wallet to pay for pavers," he disclosed for the first time two years ago in his autobiography, "American Son." In the book, Rubio dismisses most of the criticisms against him and his spending as motivated by politics or the news media's thirst for scandal. Still, Rubio did acknowledge in his book that it was a book-keeping "disaster" for him and his wife to manage two political committees that raised about $600,000 to help his bid for speaker." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

"The Tampa Bay Times Reported In 2010 That Much Of The $100,000 Rubio Put On The Card Counted As Personal Expenses, Including Lavish Dinners, Repairs To His Family Minivan, And Purchases From A Wine Store Near His House. There Was Even A $6,773 Charge For A Rubio Family Reunion At A Georgia Resort"

"The Tampa Bay Times Reported In 2010 That Much Of The $100,000 Rubio Put On The Card Counted As Personal Expenses, Including Lavish Dinners, Repairs To His Family Minivan, And Purchases From A Wine Store Near His House. There Was Even A $6,773 Charge For A Rubio Family Reunion At A Georgia Resort." "The main focus of the current controversy is Rubio's mixing of personal and business expenses when he was speaker of the Florida House of Representatives. Between 2005 and 2008 Rubio had a Republican Party of Florida American Express card. Under IRS rules, donations to political parties, which are tax exempt, can only go toward influencing elections. According to former party spokesperson Katie Gordon, the card was "a corporate card and is meant to be used for business expenses." But the Tampa Bay Times reported in 2010 that much of the $100,000 Rubio put on the card counted as personal expenses, including lavish dinners, repairs to his family minivan, and purchases from a wine store near his house. There was even a $6,773 charge for a Rubio family reunion at a Georgia resort." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Rubio Seemingly Misled The Public In Contending He "Reviewed The Bill Every Month And Paid For The Expenses He Deemed Personal"; Rubio Not Only Allowed Personal Charges On The Card But Also Failed To Make Monthly Payments As He Claimed

Rubio Seemingly Misled The Public In Contending He "Reviewed The Bill Every Month And Paid For The Expenses He Deemed Personal"; Rubio Not Only Allowed Personal Charges On The Card But Also Failed To Make Monthly Payments As He Claimed. "When the allegations first surfaced, Rubio said he reviewed the bill every month and paid for the expenses he deemed personal. "I was as diligent as possible to ensure the party did not pay for items that were unrelated to party business," he said. The Times reported that during his time as speaker, Rubio made $13,900 in payments to American Express to reimburse the party for his personal expenses. (His relatives sent checks that covered most of the reunion expenses, but the party wound up paying $714.) However, the paper found no evidence that the payments were made monthly, and there was one six-month period where Rubio made no payments." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Rubio And Other Florida GOP Politicians Are Known To Have Been Investigated By The IRS In Relation To The Use Of The Party-Issued Cards

Rubio And Other Florida GOP Politicians Are Known To Have Been Investigated By The IRS In Relation To The Use Of The Party-Issued Cards. "The IRS examined the finances of Rubio and other GOP politicians and in late 2010 slapped a subpoena for financial records on the Republican Party of Florida. But the probe ended without any charges or any other publicly observable activity. The credit-card and political-committee spending weren't the only paperwork nightmares for Rubio." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

"In 2012, The Florida Commission On Ethics Looked At Rubio's Use Of His Florida GOP AMEX And Cleared Him Of Any Wrongdoing. One Investigator Said He Still Found The 'Negligence' Rubio Exhibited 'Disturbing'"

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In 2015, A Release Of The Amex Card Statements From 2005 To 2006 Showed "Rubio Charged More Than $22,000 In Personal Expenses To The Card While The Account Incurred More Than $1,700 In Delinquency And Late Fees Over A Four-Year Period While He Was In The Florida Legislature"

In 2015, A Release Of The Amex Card Statements From 2005 To 2006 Showed "Rubio Charged More Than $22,000 In Personal Expenses To The Card While The Account Incurred More Than $1,700 In Delinquency And Late Fees Over A Four-Year Period While He Was In The Florida Legislature." "Surging Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio sought to tamp down an escalating controversy Saturday, releasing previously secret records that detailed his use of a Florida Republican Party credit card for personal

expenses. The records, which cover a 22-month period in 2005 and 2006, combined with previously disclosed credit card statements, show that Rubio charged more than $22,000 in personal expenses to the card while the account incurred more than $1,700 in delinquency and late fees over a four-year period while he was in the Florida legislature. Rubio has maintained that he paid out of his pocket for any personal expenses on the American Express card, which he used from 2005 to 2008. But he has been beset with questions from political rivals about his spending, and been criticized by opponents for his years-long refusal to detail personal spending and release statements for most of the first two years he had the card. Rubio's handling of the card gained renewed attention this past week after attacks by his 2016 presidential rival Donald Trump, who accused the Florida senator of being a "disaster" with his card and living beyond his means. The attack underscored the extent to which the credit card issue, and, more broadly, Rubio's history of amassing high amounts of personal debt, stand out as potential political liabilities as his presidential campaign gains traction. In a news release Saturday, Rubio's campaign portrayed the issue as resolved, listing eight personal expenses from the newly released statements that it said Rubio had paid. But the campaign did not provide documentation showing those payments." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

- **"The Information Released Saturday, First Reported By Politico And Later Distributed By Rubio's Campaign, Shows That His Personal Charges Included $3,756 To A Tile Company, $599 To An Auto Dealership And $1,745 In Hotel And Car Rental Costs In Las Vegas, Where Rubio Has Family."** "The information released Saturday, first reported by Politico and later distributed by Rubio's campaign, shows that his personal charges included $3,756 to a tile company, $599 to an auto dealership and $1,745 in hotel and car rental costs in Las Vegas, where Rubio has family. It's unclear whether the bulk of late fees and penalties were paid personally by Rubio or by the Florida GOP. Rubio spokesman Todd Harris said, "When Marco was responsible for late fees, he paid them. When the party was responsible because it didn't make its payments, it paid them." A Florida GOP spokesman did not respond to a request for comment." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

- **Rubio Faced Delinquency And Payment Past Due Notices During The First Two Months That He Held The Card.** "After his first month with the card, Rubio was notified that the bill had not been paid on time. On top of the Feb. 16, 2005, statement, there was an admonition from American Express in bold letters: "Your account is 30 days past due." The warning was repeated again on top of the March bill, this time with a delinquency charge of $39.78 added. Harris said that these past-due payments had been the party's responsibility because they were related to business charges that were supposed to be paid by the party." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

- **"The Problems With Bill Paying Only Worsened In The Coming Years. For Nine Consecutive Months In 2006 And 2007, The Past-Due Warning Appeared At The Top Of Rubio's Statements. In One Month Alone, His Card Was Assessed A $388 Delinquency Fee."** "The problems with bill paying only worsened in the coming years. For nine consecutive months in 2006 and 2007, the past-due warning appeared at the top of Rubio's statements. In one month alone, his card was assessed a $388 delinquency fee. Many of the charges on the card looked like legitimate business expenses — the

drumbeat of schmoozing by a rising politician. But he also used the card for expenses large and small that appeared to be more personal, including $10,000 for 20 rooms at a luxury plantation resort. Rubio's American Express spending first surfaced during the 2010 campaign in reports by the Miami Herald and St. Petersburg Times. Rubio accused one of his GOP primary opponents — then-Gov. Charlie Crist — of leaking information about the card to the media. He reiterated that allegation last week in New Hampshire after Trump's attacks. "It didn't work then, and it won't work now," Rubio said." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

RUBIO IS TIED TO A PREVIOUS MISUSE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS

"Prior To Becoming Speaker, Rubio And His Wife Controlled Two Political Committees That Collected $600,000 Altogether. The Times Found That They Failed To Disclose $34,000 In Expenses, Paid Family Members For Expenses That Were Incorrectly Labeled, And Spent Little On Contributions To Other Candidates"

"Prior To Becoming Speaker, Rubio And His Wife Controlled Two Political Committees That Collected $600,000 Altogether. The Times Found That They Failed To Disclose $34,000 In Expenses, Paid Family Members For Expenses That Were Incorrectly Labeled, And Spent Little On Contributions To Other Candidates." "There were various other issues with Rubio's political spending. Prior to becoming speaker, Rubio and his wife controlled two political committees that collected $600,000 altogether. The Times found that they failed to disclose $34,000 in expenses, paid family members for expenses that were incorrectly labeled, and spent little on contributions to other candidates. Later it was discovered that as speaker, Rubio double-billed the Republican Party of Florida and state taxpayers for eight flights, totaling about $2,400. He said it was a "mistake" and reimbursed the party." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Rubio Has Acknowledged That He Made A Mistake Using His Family's Personal Credit Cards For Political Expenses

Rubio Has Acknowledged That He Made A Mistake Using His Family's Personal Credit Cards For Political Expenses. "Rubio's management of campaign cash also seemed chaotic. He formed two political committees and doled out money to relatives for services and expenses. He grappled with the handling of credit cards for committee business as he criss-crossed the state campaigning among his legislative colleagues for support to be elected House speaker, Rubio recalled in his 2012 memoir. He named his wife, Jeanette, as treasurer of one of the committees. "That decision proved to be a disaster," Rubio wrote. "I often used my or Jeanette's personal credit cards to pay for many of the campaign's expenditures. When I received my statement I would spend hours trying to figure out which were political, and which were personal." Rubio's wife usually didn't join him on trips, but when it came time to pay bills, Rubio wrote, "she had to jog my memory to determine which credit card purchases were campaign expenditures, sometimes weeks after I had made them. It was an imperfect accounting system, to say the least.'" (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

RUBIO IS TIED TO A PREVIOUS FAILURE TO REPORT A SUSPICIOUS LINE OF CREDIT

"After He Became Speaker, The Herald Discovered In 2008 That He Took Out A $135,000 Home-Equity Line Of Credit On His West Miami House But Failed To Report It On His Financial Disclosures. The Lender, Miami-Based U.S. Century Bank, Gave Him The Loan Just 37 Days After Rubio Bought The House"

"After He Became Speaker, The Herald Discovered In 2008 That He Took Out A $135,000 Home-Equity Line Of Credit On His West Miami House But Failed To Report It On His Financial Disclosures. The Lender, Miami-Based U.S. Century Bank, Gave Him The Loan Just 37 Days After Rubio Bought The House." "After he became speaker, the Herald discovered in 2008 that he took out a $135,000 home-equity line of credit on his West Miami house but failed to report it on his financial disclosures. The lender, Miami-based U.S. Century Bank, gave him the loan just 37 days after Rubio bought the house. "There's nothing unusual about the loan or the application," Rubio told the Herald at the time. "They went out and ordered the appraisal. … They said I qualified for $135,000. I took the equity line." Rubio explained that the failure to disclose the loan was "an oversight," and he amended his forms." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **"In December 2005, Rubio And His Wife Bought A Home For $550,000 In West Miami. About A Month Later, The Rubios Qualified For A $135,000 Home-Equity Loan From U.S. Century Bank, Which Was Owned By Rubio's Supporters, Because An Appraisal Valued The Home At $735,000 — Far Above The Purchase Price."** "Rubio owns two homes, and he's had problems with both. In December 2005, Rubio and his wife bought a home for $550,000 in West Miami. About a month later, the Rubios qualified for a $135,000 home-equity loan from U.S. Century Bank, which was owned by Rubio's supporters, because an appraisal valued the home at $735,000 — far above the purchase price. The home-equity loan initially did not appear on Rubio's financial-disclosure forms, but he quickly updated them when the Miami Herald asked about the omission in 2008." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

"Rubio Got Very Generous Terms To Finance The House From Miami's U.S. Century Bank, Whose CEO Was A Former Head Of The Florida Republican Party Named Jim Greer, Who Later Went To Jail For Money Laundering"

"Rubio Got Very Generous Terms To Finance The House From Miami's U.S. Century Bank, Whose CEO Was A Former Head Of The Florida Republican Party Named Jim Greer, Who Later Went To Jail For Money Laundering." "Mr. Rubio bought the house from a shell company called Sanval Boats LLC and no one knows who controlled that entity and hence who he in fact bought it from. But we do know that Mr. Rubio got very generous terms to finance the house from Miami's U.S. Century Bank, whose CEO was a former head of the Florida Republican Party named Jim Greer, who later went to jail for money laundering. A book about Greer called The Chairman: The Rise and Betrayal of Jim Greer has some juicy anecdotes about Mr. Rubio and David Rivera, Mr. Rubio's one-time best friend and roommate as well as a noted womanizer and former Florida State House member and federal congressman. (A number

of other top officials at the U.S. Century Bank were major political supporters of Mr. Rubio's.)" (Observer, 1/18/16)

"Mr. Rubio's $135,000 Home Equity Loan Was Granted Only Because U.S. Century Bank Mysteriously Reappraised Its Worth Upwards By About One-Third, To $735,000, Little More Than A Month After He Purchased The Property"

"Mr. Rubio's $135,000 Home Equity Loan Was Granted Only Because U.S. Century Bank Mysteriously Reappraised Its Worth Upwards By About One-Third, To $735,000, Little More Than A Month After He Purchased The Property." "In any event, Mr. Rubio's $135,000 home equity loan was granted only because U.S. Century Bank mysteriously reappraised its worth upwards by about one-third, to $735,000, little more than a month after he purchased the property. "It looks a lot like somebody's currying favor with an important political person," one real estate analyst said of Mr. Rubio's real estate dealings in a 2008 story that ran in a Miami newspaper. "People off the street don't get this deal." It's worth pointing out here that Miami-Dade County assessors put the market value of the house at $503,000 in 2006, some 50 percent less than US Century Bank's appraisal at the same time. The house's assessed value topped out the following year at $540,401 and last year county assessors estimated its worth at a mere $400,492, an increase from $391,443 in 2013." (Observer, 1/18/16)

RUBIO IS TIED TO A PREVIOUS FAILURE TO MAKE PROPER FILINGS FOR PACs

Rubio And His Wife Are Known To Have Established Two Nonprofit PAC Entities FCLC And FCLG, Which Were Both Dissolved By Florida Officials For Failure To File Annual Report Despite Having Collected Thousands Of Dollars In Contributions

Rubio And His Wife Are Known To Have Established Two Nonprofit PAC Entities FCLC And FCLG, Which Were Both Dissolved By Florida Officials For Failure To File Annual Report Despite Having Collected Thousands Of Dollars In Contributions. "During its brief existence, FCLC raised $228,350, of which roughly $35,000 disappeared into thin air, according to the entity's own tax returns. Its largest donor by far was a scandal-plagued PAC called OPH ($50,000) but Democratic super-lobbyist Ron Book also gave generously. Bridget Nocco, Mr. Rubio's lobbyist pal, was paid nearly $26,000 by the PAC for salary and consulting services, according to its nonprofit tax filings with the IRS. Shortly before its demise FCLC made two payments to a super PAC (which are known as 527s, based on the IRS rule that allows them) with a similar name, Floridians for Conservative Leadership in Government (FCLG). The latter was formed in 2004 with Marco Rubio as its president and registered agent, his wife as the VP and Urquiola as its treasurer. In any event, the State of Florida dissolved Mr. Rubio's 527 in 2006 because—you guessed it—it failed to file an annual report. Many of the companies and individuals that donated to the two groups had major business interests before the Florida Legislature and the two entities had overlapping donors, such as super-lobbyist Mr. Book, and payees, such as Bridget Nocco, who netted $90,062 from the 527 for salary and consulting services. Another notable recipient of cash from Mr. Rubio's 527 was a company called Servicarga, which in 2004 received $3,500, which it billed for "courier services." What's curious

here is that Mr. Rubio's wife owned Servicarga and that, according to IRS returns and other documents, the company stopped operating in 1997." (Observer, 1/18/16)

RUBIO IS TIED TO FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST A PROPERTY JOINTLY OWNED WITH DAVID RIVERA

Rubio Is Known To Have Owned A House With Disgraced Former Congressman David Rivera That Was Later Subjected To Foreclosure Proceedings; The House, Purchased In 2005, Was Put Up For Sale In 2015

Rubio Is Known To Have Owned A House With Disgraced Former Congressman David Rivera That Was Later Subjected To Foreclosure Proceedings; The House, Purchased In 2005, Was Put Up For Sale In 2015. "The brick-fronted tract house with a satellite dish and a yellow fire hydrant in front looks like many middle-class homes in Florida's capital, except for the two names on the deed. Marco Rubio: U.S. senator and would-be presidential candidate. David Rivera: Scandal-plagued former congressman under investigation in a federal campaign-finance probe. In many ways, it has been a house of horrors for Rubio, a financial and political liability heading into the 2016 election. While he and Rivera were state legislators, they paid way too much for it in 2005, only to see foreclosure proceedings embarrassingly initiated against them during Rubio's 2010 Senate race. At another point, a tropical storm flooded the entire neighborhood so badly that neighbors used canoes to get around. Now, the three-bedroom property stands as a stubborn symbol of both a politically problematic friendship and lingering questions about Rubio's personal finances, which dogged him on the campaign trail in 2010 and may do so again. The friendship has frayed in recent years, friends say, as the fortunes of Rubio, 43, and Rivera, 49, have diverged. Last week, they put the 1,228-square-foot house up for sale. The list price is $125,000 — $10,000 less than what the two men paid for it a decade ago. But chances are the home won't sell before April, when Rubio says he'll decide whether to seek the presidency. Rubio's critics are waiting to make hay of any revelations that may come of the federal investigation of Rivera and to point to their status as roommates during the years when Rivera allegedly engaged in illegal campaign activities. "This will be an issue," declared Craig Smith, a top adviser for the Ready for Hillary super PAC, echoing the views of many supporters and detractors alike. "When you run for president, voters and the press have an insatiable appetite for people's histories, what they've done, who they are. … It raises questions about his judgment, about the kind of people he would bring with him into government, into a campaign.'" (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

"In June 2010, Deutsche Bank Hired A Company To Initiate Foreclosure Proceedings On The House He Co-Owned With Rivera, Claiming The Mortgage Had Not Been Paid For Five Months"

"In June 2010, Deutsche Bank Hired A Company To Initiate Foreclosure Proceedings On The House He Co-Owned With Rivera, Claiming The Mortgage Had Not Been Paid For Five Months." "Two years later, a worse housing problem — this time in Tallahassee — vexed him. In June 2010, Deutsche Bank hired a company to initiate foreclosure proceedings on the house he co-owned with Rivera, claiming the mortgage had not been paid for five months.

During that period, Rivera had been in Tallahassee for pre-session committee weeks and the regular 60-day lawmaking session that begins in March. The two men characterized the dispute as a disagreement with the bank over the interest-only mortgage they had on the property. News of the foreclosure rocked Rubio on the campaign trail. Rivera, running for his first and only successful congressional bid, quickly hand-delivered a $9,525 cashier's check to cover missed payments and fees. "There is no foreclosure," Rivera told the St. Petersburg Times then. "The mortgage is paid and up to date." Rubio was infuriated, friends say. Rubio has handled paying the mortgage ever since. He and Rivera got a mutual friend to help manage the property and find a tenant later that year, a single mother who recently moved out. The tenant declined to speak with POLITICO, but she said in a written statement that Rubio and his wife "have been very gracious and understanding of my circumstances." She called them "extraordinary landlords" and expressed her "deep appreciation … for all that you've done." Neighbors say they had little idea about the drama surrounding the house or the ambitions of Rubio. Caridad Tamayo, who has lived in the neighborhood for five years, said she didn't recognize Rubio's name. Neighbor Richard Linck said he knew about Rubio but had "no idea" he was planning to run for president. "The reality is Marco wants to sell this house because it's horrible," one friend said. "It's been nothing but trouble for him. There was the foreclosure. There was a flood that made it tough to get to without a canoe at one point. And there's David. Marco won't turn his back on David. But we all wish he would." Rubio has kept his distance more and more from Rivera as Rubio became a serious, national figure while Rivera lost his congressional seat and reeled from multiple scandals." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

RUBIO HAS ENGAGED IN QUESTIONABLE SELF-ENRICHMENT AND LOBBYING DURING POLITICAL SERVICE

"During Nine Years In Tallahassee, As Rubio Rose In Prominence And Ascended To The State House Speakership, He Became Increasingly Well Compensated As He Walked A Narrow Line Between His Work As A Lawmaker And An Employee Of Outside Firms With Interests Before The State Government"

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"Although He Began His Legislative Career As A Man Of Modest Means, Rubio In 2008 Reached An Income Level That Placed Him In The Top 1 Percent Of American Earners"

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"His Outside Work Included Helping Real Estate Developers Navigate City Hall Bureaucracies, Assisting A Law Firm In Adding Ethnic Diversity To Its Client Base And Lawyer Roster, Teaching College-Level Political Science Classes, And Coordinating Conference Calls For A Washington Lobbyist Seeking Federal Funding For Miami Hospitals"

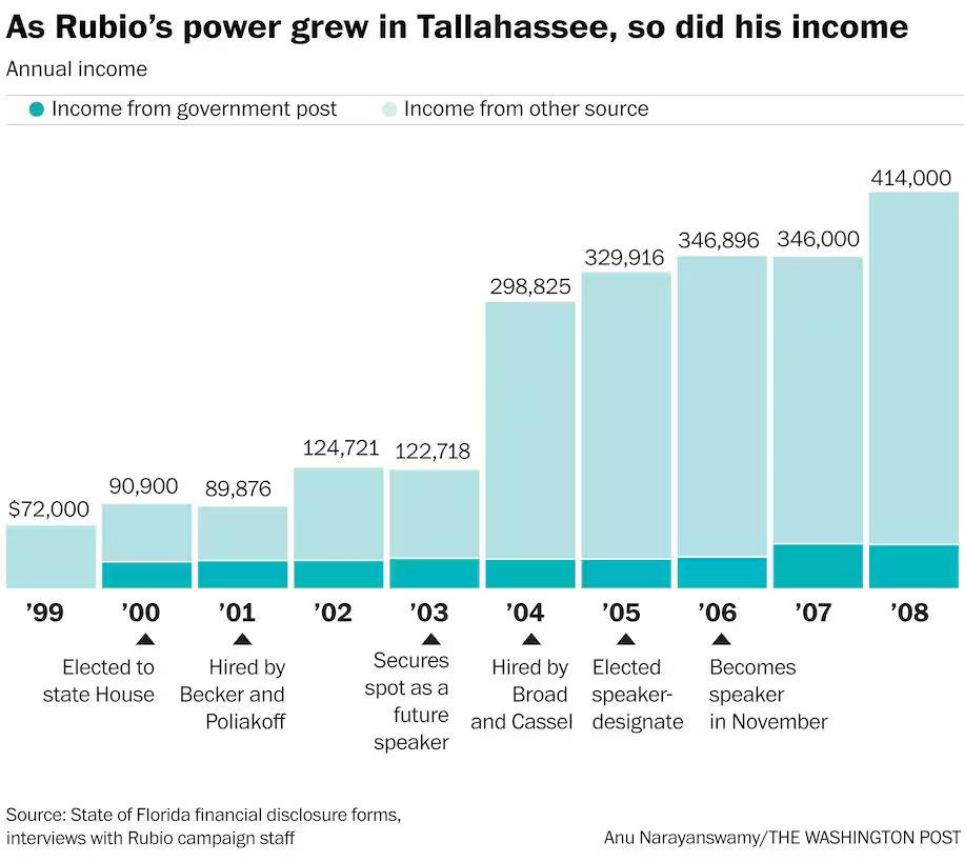
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"Rubio's Annual Income Grew From About $72,000 When He Was Elected To The State House In 2000 To $414,000 In 2008, When His Two-Year Speakership Ended, According To Financial Disclosure Forms And Interviews With Rubio Campaign Staff Members"

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(*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

"Rubio's Income Raised Some Concerns Among His Colleagues, Particularly After His Big Jump Upon Securing The Speakership…"

"Rubio's Income Raised Some Concerns Among His Colleagues, Particularly After His Big Jump Upon Securing The Speakership, Said Mike Fasano, Who As House Majority Leader In 2001 Gave Rubio An Early Leadership Post But Became A Critic And Backed Rubio's 2010 Senate Rival, Charlie Crist (D)." "Rubio's income raised some concerns among his colleagues, particularly after his big jump upon securing the speakership, said Mike Fasano, who as House majority leader in 2001 gave Rubio an early leadership post but became a critic and backed Rubio's 2010 Senate rival, Charlie Crist (D). "Other members of the Florida House do not see their salary triple overnight," said Fasano, who is backing Bush's presidential campaign. "I feel confident in saying that if he had not been selected to the speaker-designate, his salary would not have shot up to $300,000.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

Rubio Is Known To Have Dramatically Increased His Income While Serving In The Florida House And Concurrently Working For "The Powerhouse Lobbying Firm Of Broad And Cassell"

Rubio Is Known To Have Dramatically Increased His Income While Serving In The Florida House And Concurrently Working For "The Powerhouse Lobbying Firm Of Broad And Cassell." "But it was only after getting into politics that Mr. Rubio really started making

big money—and he made it very quickly, with the help of a few intimate companions—especially after taking over as Florida House majority leader and whip in early 2003. In fact, his income nearly tripled during the two years—from $122,000 to $330,000, based on financial disclosure forms—and spiked again in 2008, which may be tied to the fact that he became Florida House speaker in November 2006. Mr. Rubio was able to cash in in spectacular fashion because Florida's preposterously flaccid political rules allow politicians to simultaneously hold public office and work as "consultants" to major law and lobbying firms—much like the arrangement that recently landed Sheldon Silver in prison in New York. That means that they technically can't "lobby" but do it anyway and call it "consulting." So, for example, when Mr. Rubio became House majority leader in 2003 he went to work for the powerhouse lobbying firm of Broad and Cassell, which is precisely the point where disclosure forms reveal a giant spike in his income." (Observer, 1/18/16)

"The Bulk Of His Private-Sector Income During His Tallahassee Years Came From His Employment At Broad And Cassel, One Of Florida's Top Law And Lobbying Firms, Which Hired Rubio At $300,000 A Year In 2004, Months After He Secured The Support From His House Colleagues To Be In Line For The Speakership"

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- **"Rubio Continued To Work At The Firm For The Two Years He Was Speaker, A Term That Started In November 2006."** (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

Rubio "Was Brought On Board Largely To Help The Firm Diversify Its Mostly White, Male Miami Office"

Rubio "Was Brought On Board Largely To Help The Firm Diversify Its Mostly White, Male Miami Office." "Broad and Cassel was known for its real estate, litigation and government relations practice. But Rubio's role, aides said, was non-political. He was prevented by law from lobbying. The firm's offer letter to Rubio, dated June 18, 2004, forbade him to introduce legislation that would affect the firm or its clients. The letter also mandated, in

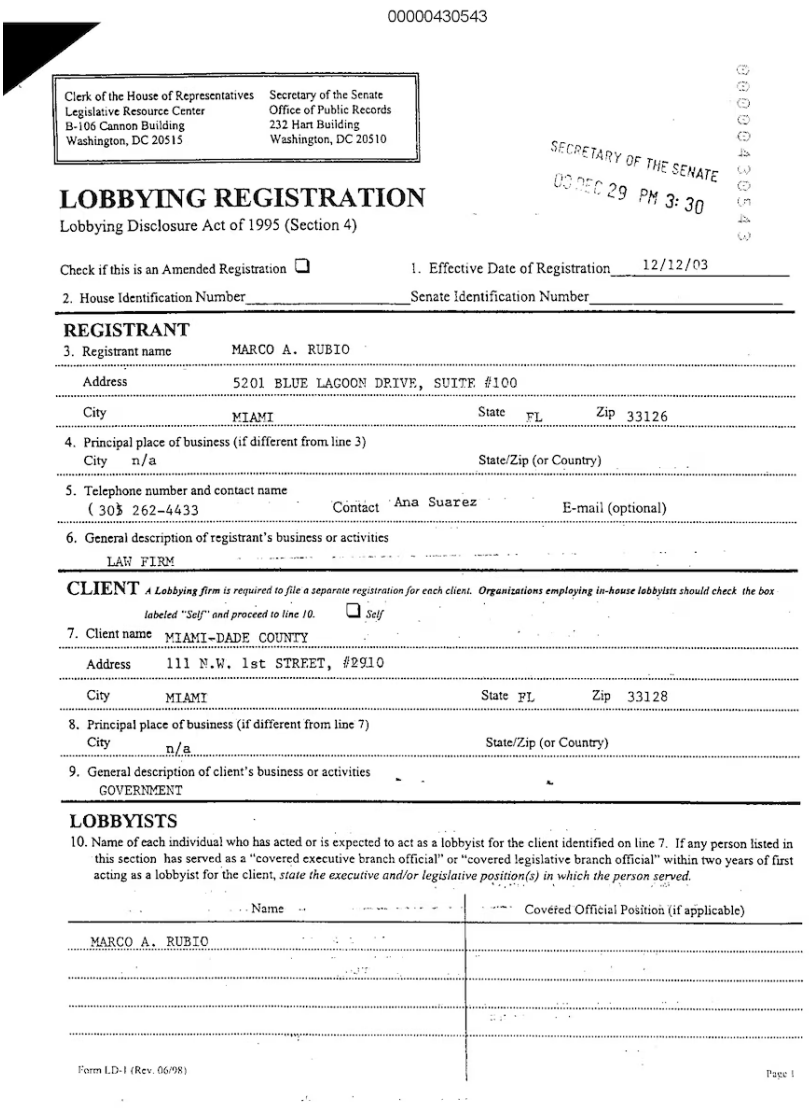
accordance with state laws, that Rubio's salary would not include any money the firm received from lobbying. Instead, the son of Cuban immigrants was brought on board largely to help the firm diversify its mostly white, male Miami office. "Because of my political obligations it was understood that my primary responsibility would not be to handle individual clients," Rubio said in a written response to questions from The Post. "Instead, my job was to raise the firm's profile in Miami, help attract younger lawyers to build for the future, and opening new doors for the firm, particularly in the Cuban American business community where Broad and Cassel had limited ties." Rubio said that, today, the firm's Miami office is "thriving," adding that, "I am proud of the leadership role I played to help make that happen.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

Previously, Rubio Is Known To Have Worked At The Firm Becker & Poliakoff Earning $93,000 A Year While Serving In The Florida House

Previously, Rubio Is Known To Have Worked At The Firm Becker & Poliakoff Earning $93,000 A Year While Serving In The Florida House. "Marco Rubio was 28 when he was elected to the Florida legislature. He was about to become a father and was struggling to balance the financial demands of a growing family with his political aspirations. About a year and a half after taking his seat in Florida's part-time legislature, Rubio got a financial boost, accepting a job at the Miami law firm Becker & Poliakoff for $93,000 a year. Although Rubio was a lawyer by training, his colleagues quickly recognized the advantage of having a charismatic, high-energy politician in the office. "It was as simple as saying, 'Marco, who should I call in this place about this issue?' " recalled Perry Adair, a real estate lawyer in charge of the firm's Miami office, where Rubio worked from 2001 to 2004. "Marco knew the staff everywhere. He had been in politics all his life.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

"During His Time At Becker's Firm, Rubio Registered With The Miami-Dade County Government To Lobby On Behalf Of Real Estate And Other Interests"

"During His Time At Becker's Firm, Rubio Registered With The Miami-Dade County Government To Lobby On Behalf Of Real Estate And Other Interests." "When Rubio first arrived in Tallahassee in 2000, he was employed by Ruden McClosky, a law firm that paid him $72,000 a year, a total that Rubio recalls in his memoir was barely enough to make ends meet. In 2001, Rubio met Alan Becker, a former state legislator building a lobbying and law firm. Becker offered Rubio $93,000 to join his firm. "I didn't hesitate a moment," Rubio wrote in his book, "An American Son." Becker, in an interview, said he hired Rubio to work on zoning and land-use issues. He said he knew that Rubio, focused on the legislature, would have limited time for the firm. "I was paying him accordingly," Becker said. "If he was devoting 100 percent to the law business, he would have been paid more because he was worth it." During his time at Becker's firm, Rubio registered with the Miami-Dade County government to lobby on behalf of real estate and other interests. Democrats later cited this to attack him as a lobbyist, but Rubio has said his county-level work focused on local zoning issues and was not lobbying in the traditional sense." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)



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Office of Public Records
232 Hart Building
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SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
03 DEC 29 PM 3:30

LOBBYING REGISTRATION
Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (Section 4)

Check if this is an Amended Registration ☐ 1. Effective Date of Registration 12/12/03

2. House Identification Number _____ Senate Identification Number _____

REGISTRANT

3. Registrant name MARCO A. RUBIO

Address 5201 BLUE LAGOON DRIVE, SUITE #100

City MIAMI State FL Zip 33126

4. Principal place of business (if different from line 3)
City n/a State/Zip (or Country)

5. Telephone number and contact name
(305) 262-4433 Contact Ana Suarez E-mail (optional)

6. General description of registrant's business or activities
LAW FIRM

CLIENT *A Lobbying firm is required to file a separate registration for each client. Organizations employing in-house lobbyists should check the box labeled "Self" and proceed to line 10.* ☐ *Self*

7. Client name MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Address 111 N.W. 1st STREET, #2910

City MIAMI State FL Zip 33128

8. Principal place of business (if different from line 7)
City n/a State/Zip (or Country)

9. General description of client's business or activities
GOVERNMENT

LOBBYISTS

10. Name of each individual who has acted or is expected to act as a lobbyist for the client identified on line 7. If any person listed in this section has served as a "covered executive branch official" or "covered legislative branch official" within two years of first acting as a lobbyist for the client, *state the executive and/or legislative position(s) in which the person served.*

Name	Covered Official Position (if applicable)
MARCO A. RUBIO	

Form LD-1 (Rev. 06/98) Page 1

(*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **"In December 2003, Rubio Was Registered As A Federal Lobbyist For Becker & Poliakoff In Washington, According To Records Maintained By The U.S. House And Senate And Never Previously Reported."** "In December 2003, Rubio was registered as a federal lobbyist for Becker & Poliakoff in Washington, according to records maintained by the U.S. House and Senate and never previously reported. The registration form, which includes Rubio's signature, declares that he would concentrate on "budget appropriations and health care.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)
    - **"Firm Officials Said It Had Been An Error, And The Firm Sent A Letter In 2005 Asking The Senate To Revoke The Registration."** "Harris said that Rubio could not recall filling out the registration form and that he did not lobby. Firm officials said it had been an error, and the firm sent a letter in 2005 asking the Senate to revoke the registration. At the time that Rubio's form was filed, Becker & Poliakoff had formed a joint venture with a Washington lobbying firm hired by Miami-Dade County to help find federal funding for Miami's public hospitals. As

part of his work for the Becker firm, Rubio helped Jonathan Slade, one of the Washington lobbyists, learn about the county's federal needs, Slade said. Rubio arranged conference calls between Slade and county officials to discuss hospital issues, Slade said. Rubio was usually on the line for the calls, Slade added, but did not participate in the conversations. Slade said that he was not aware that Rubio did any federal lobbying, and that he was surprised to learn Rubio had once registered." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **Rubio Has Noted That He Was "Indebted" To Becker & Poliakoff's Name Partner For Having Offered Him A Job When He Was In "Difficult Financial Straits."** "By 2003, Rubio had lined up the commitments he needed from his GOP House colleagues to secure his place in line to assume the speaker's gavel. Soon thereafter, he began to receive other high-income offers. During a 2004 dinner with Rubio and his wife at Chef Allen's, a popular restaurant north of Miami, Becker persuaded him to stay by offering him a 50 percent raise. It was less than one of the competing offers, but enough to keep Rubio, at least for a while. But when Broad and Cassel offered to more than double his salary, Rubio was compelled to listen. Becker told Rubio that he would be "out of his mind" to say no. In his memoir, Rubio described himself as "torn." "I had been in difficult financial straits when Alan Becker had offered me a job, and I was indebted to him," Rubio wrote. "But I couldn't afford to refuse the financial security the Broad and Cassel offer would provide." Rubio described his circumstances at the time: 33 years old and the sole earner in his household." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

Additionally, While Serving As Speaker, Rubio's "Connections Landed Him A Nonadvertised, Paid Teaching Job At Florida International University." "Rubio left office in 2008 with no sign of letting up. He converted 100 Ideas into a political committee. His connections landed him a nonadvertised, paid teaching job at Florida International University, and he became a political commentator for Univision, which would keep him in the public eye. That summer he began to quietly work out scenarios for his next office, a complicated mix that included a run for state Senate or a statewide office in 2010, a challenge to U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson in 2012 or a run for governor in 2014. Then came the unexpected." (*Miami Herald*, 10/9/10)

- **"In 2008, During His Final Months As Speaker, Rubio's Income Rose Yet Again — This Time The Result Of A New Teaching Job At Florida International University, A Large State School In Miami. The Part-Time Position Paid Rubio $69,000 A Year."** (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **"The Offer Came As FIU Slashed 38 Faculty Jobs, Shut Six Labs, And Axed 23 Degrees Because Of A $32 Million Shortfall. Then It Was Disclosed That As Speaker, Rubio Had Helped Green-Light A $15 Million Hurricane Research Center As Well As $11 Million For A Medical School."** "It was a heartfelt speech. But Rubio couldn't avoid one last bit of shady business on his way out of Tally. Weeks after the session, Florida International University offered him a $69,000-a-year gig teaching a few political science classes. The offer came as FIU slashed 38 faculty jobs, shut six labs, and axed 23 degrees because of a $32 million shortfall. Then it was disclosed that as speaker, Rubio had helped green-light a $15 million hurricane research center as well as $11 million for a medical school." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **"When Mr. Rubio Left State Government, Determined To Shore Up His Finances Before Running For The United States Senate, He Landed A Teaching Job At Florida International University, Agreeing To Raise Much Of His Salary Through Private Donations. Mr. Braman Gave $100,000, According To Records He Shared With The New York Times."** "Usually, Mr. Rubio said at a news conference at the time, he would have laughed off such an eye-popping pitch. "But when Norman Braman brings it to you," Mr. Rubio said, "you take it seriously." Later that year, when Mr. Rubio left state government, determined to shore up his finances before running for the United States Senate, he landed a teaching job at Florida International University, agreeing to raise much of his salary through private donations. Mr. Braman gave $100,000, according to records he shared with The New York Times. Dario Moreno, who oversaw the university center where Mr. Rubio worked and who taught classes with him, confirmed that Mr. Rubio had raised the money from Mr. Braman." (*The New York Times*, 5/9/15)

Shortly After Leaving The Speakership, Rubio "And A Former Aide Signed Consulting Contracts Worth $102,000 With Jackson Hospital Systems And $96,000 With Miami Children's Hospital"; He Had "Recently Championed" Both Systems As A Lawmaker. "Rubio's private income got another boost shortly after he ended his two-year stint as speaker and left state office — signing on as a consultant for public hospitals he had recently championed as a lawmaker. Rubio and a former aide signed consulting contracts worth $102,000 with Jackson Hospital Systems and $96,000 with Miami Children's Hospital, according to Senate disclosure forms and interviews with Rubio aides. Then came the 2010 campaign, when Rubio secured his spot as a national Republican star. Fame followed, as did lucrative book deals — earning him at least $1.2 million, according to financial disclosure forms — and a chance to become president." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

RUBIO HAS TIES TO CONTROVERSIAL FIGURE DAVID RIVERA

David Rivera Is Known To Have Been One Of Rubio's "Closest Friends And Allies"

David Rivera Is Known To Have Been One Of Rubio's "Closest Friends And Allies." "Rubio says he has no idea what he'll do in 2016—run for re-election, "run for something else" or return to the private sector. Some insiders remain dubious that he'll seek the "something else" route so early in his career. He's had some awkward personal-finance issues. One of his closest friends and allies, former Congressman David Rivera, is embroiled in a corruption scandal. And his political mentor, Jeb Bush, might seek the White House himself. Their friends assume Rubio would defer in that case, though it was curious that when I asked him whether he had discussed his immigration work with Bush, who has a book coming out on the subject, he said he sent a text message." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

"Often By His Side Was Rivera, Whom Rubio Credits In His Memoir As "Among My Closest Friends And Advisers'"

"Often By His Side Was Rivera, Whom Rubio Credits In His Memoir As "Among My Closest Friends And Advisers.'" "Often by his side was Rivera, whom Rubio credits in his memoir as "among my closest friends and advisers." And for many years, the two men, who met as volunteers on the 1992 Diaz-Balart campaign, seemed to rise together arm-in-arm. Rivera

brought Rubio on to Bob Dole's 1996 presidential campaign, and Rubio later helped Rivera win election to the Florida House in 2002; the two men worked hand-in-glove at the state level, with Rivera playing a mix of Rubio's Falstaff—a fun, party guy who pushed the limits—and his political enforcer. The two even shared a house in Tallahassee—and later one in Washington. "I saw them as a bad boy-good boy team," says Christian Ulvert, who managed Gelber's campaign for attorney general. "David was 100 percent bad boy, and Marco Rubio seemed like his opposite." When Rubio was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2010, Rivera won a congressional seat. But Rivera's career ended abruptly after he was implicated in a "ringer" scandal—financing a fake candidate to run against his opponent to siphon off votes. Amid a raft of alleged campaign infractions, Melanie Sloan, executive director of the nonpartisan Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, declaimed that "Rivera might very well be the most corrupt member of Congress.'" (*Politico*, 11/2015)

David Rivera Is "Arguably One Of The Most Corrupt Members Of Congress In Florida's Colorful History"

David Rivera Is "Arguably One Of The Most Corrupt Members Of Congress In Florida's Colorful History." "Mr. Rubio has a long track record of corruption that his political enemies will have a simple time exploiting. Most problematically, the FBI has for years been investigating David Rivera, one of Mr. Rubio's best friends and long-time political allies, and arguably one of the most corrupt members of congress in Florida's colorful history." (Observer, 2/25/16)

"Rubio Owes A Measure Of His Early Success In Politics To Rivera. Rivera Advised And Stumped For Rubio In His First Campaign For The State House In 2000. Once Elected, Rubio Repaid The Favor And Helped Rivera Win A State House Seat In 2002. The Following Year, Rivera Was Instrumental In Helping Rubio Collect Pledge Cards From Fellow Republicans To Eventually Become The First Cuban-American Speaker Of The Florida House"

"Rubio Owes A Measure Of His Early Success In Politics To Rivera. Rivera Advised And Stumped For Rubio In His First Campaign For The State House In 2000. Once Elected, Rubio Repaid The Favor And Helped Rivera Win A State House Seat In 2002. The Following Year, Rivera Was Instrumental In Helping Rubio Collect Pledge Cards From Fellow Republicans To Eventually Become The First Cuban-American Speaker Of The Florida House." "Rubio owes a measure of his early success in politics to Rivera. Rivera advised and stumped for Rubio in his first campaign for the state House in 2000. Once elected, Rubio repaid the favor and helped Rivera win a state House seat in 2002. The following year, Rivera was instrumental in helping Rubio collect pledge cards from fellow Republicans to eventually become the first Cuban-American speaker of the Florida House. A relentless political operative, Rivera popped up in seemingly every corner of the state throughout the year to pressure, cajole and win over GOP House members to support Rubio for speaker. As the two climbed the rungs of power together in the Florida House, they decided to buy the home at 1484 Bent Willow Drive in the Timber Lakes subdivision for $135,000. The March 2, 2005, deed was executed about a week before the 60-day lawmaking session began that year. When Rubio was formally voted speaker, he was nominated by Rivera, who served as chairman of the Florida

House Rules Committee during Rubio's speakership in 2007 and 2008. The post gave Rivera life-and-death power over much of the legislation in the House." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

"In The Capitol, Rubio Gave Rivera The House Clerk's Office, Which Was Located Just Off The Chamber Floor, And Knocked Down A Wall So They Could Have Direct Access To Each Other. He Made Rivera The Chairman Of The Rules Committee, A Powerful Post That Gave Him Control Over Which Bills Made It To The House Floor For A Vote"

"In The Capitol, Rubio Gave Rivera The House Clerk's Office, Which Was Located Just Off The Chamber Floor, And Knocked Down A Wall So They Could Have Direct Access To Each Other. He Made Rivera The Chairman Of The Rules Committee, A Powerful Post That Gave Him Control Over Which Bills Made It To The House Floor For A Vote."
"While Rubio was all smiles and eager to win friends, his top advisers had grown up in the brass-knuckled world of Miami politics. "Charming miscreants," Gelber says, describing them as a band of "Boris-and-Natasha-type figures," a reference to the cunning spies in the Rocky and Bullwinkle cartoons. No one was closer to Rubio than David Rivera, a representative from Miami who had managed his speakership campaign. (Rivera did not respond to a request for comment.) The two formed a brotherly bond in the trenches of Miami elections, and they lived together during legislative sessions in a modest, three-bedroom home they bought in a Tallahassee subdivision. In the Capitol, Rubio gave Rivera the House clerk's office, which was located just off the chamber floor, and knocked down a wall so they could have direct access to each other. He made Rivera the chairman of the Rules Committee, a powerful post that gave him control over which bills made it to the House floor for a vote. Rubio's relationship with Rivera was emblematic of the new speaker's general style: a tendency to delegate many of the toughest parts of politics. Bob Levy, a longtime lobbyist, says he rarely visited Rubio when he wanted something for his clients. It was Rivera who took the meetings. "When you talked to David, you knew you were talking to Marco," Levy told me. "Rivera got things done," Gelber says, "sort of like a fighter pilot might plow the horizon for the guys behind himwith a similar amount of damage, I might add." "There were times when David did things that Marco wouldn't necessarily sanction, but he considered that David's choiceas long as they didn't involve Marco directly," Jill Chamberlin, Rubio's former press secretary, told me." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Rubio Is Also Known To Have Owned A House With Rivera That Was Later Subjected To Foreclosure Proceedings; The House, Purchased In 2005, Was Put Up For Sale In 2015

Rubio Is Also Known To Have Owned A House With Rivera That Was Later Subjected To Foreclosure Proceedings; The House, Purchased In 2005, Was Put Up For Sale In 2015.
"The brick-fronted tract house with a satellite dish and a yellow fire hydrant in front looks like many middle-class homes in Florida's capital, except for the two names on the deed. Marco Rubio: U.S. senator and would-be presidential candidate. David Rivera: Scandal-plagued former congressman under investigation in a federal campaign-finance probe. In many ways, it has been a house of horrors for Rubio, a financial and political liability heading into the 2016 election. While he and Rivera were state legislators, they paid way too much for it in 2005, only to see foreclosure proceedings embarrassingly initiated against them during Rubio's 2010 Senate race. At another point, a tropical storm flooded the entire neighborhood so badly that neighbors used canoes to get around. Now, the three-bedroom property stands as a stubborn symbol of both a

politically problematic friendship and lingering questions about Rubio's personal finances, which dogged him on the campaign trail in 2010 and may do so again. The friendship has frayed in recent years, friends say, as the fortunes of Rubio, 43, and Rivera, 49, have diverged. Last week, they put the 1,228-square-foot house up for sale. The list price is $125,000 — $10,000 less than what the two men paid for it a decade ago. But chances are the home won't sell before April, when Rubio says he'll decide whether to seek the presidency. Rubio's critics are waiting to make hay of any revelations that may come of the federal investigation of Rivera and to point to their status as roommates during the years when Rivera allegedly engaged in illegal campaign activities. "This will be an issue," declared Craig Smith, a top adviser for the Ready for Hillary super PAC, echoing the views of many supporters and detractors alike. "When you run for president, voters and the press have an insatiable appetite for people's histories, what they've done, who they are. … It raises questions about his judgment, about the kind of people he would bring with him into government, into a campaign.'" (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **Rubio, A Friend Of Rivera's Since 1992, "Bought The Tallahassee Home For Lodging When The Two Up-And-Coming Legislators Served Together In The Florida House."** "Rubio declined to comment for this story or about his relationship with Rivera, with whom he bought the Tallahassee home for lodging when the two up-and-coming legislators served together in the Florida House. A Rubio spokesman and Rivera both denied that the sale of the house had any political motivations. The home's tenant since 2010 recently moved out, and they've been trying to sell the house, unsuccessfully, for years. Asked about the status of Rubio's relationship with Rivera, which dates to 1992, when both men worked for the congressional campaign of Lincoln Diaz-Balart, spokesman Alex Burgos said in a written statement: "David Rivera is an old friend of Senator Rubio's. His hope is that Mr. Rivera can put his recent troubles behind him and go on with his life." But interviews with more than a dozen friends and political insiders who have known the two for years suggest that the story is more complicated, and that Rubio is stuck between his sense of loyalty to his friend and his need to move on with his life and political career. Three people close to Rubio say he has referred to Rivera on multiple occasions as "Nixonian." And yet others describe a brotherly closeness that became strained only as Rivera weathered state and federal investigations into his finances, a related state ethics case that recently resulted in a proposed $58,000 fine, and the more serious campaign-finance scandal that erupted in 2012. At the time, Rubio and Rivera shared a rental home in Washington for the two years they both served in Congress. "Marco wants little to do with David, and you can't blame him — who would want that guy by their side as they're running for president?" said Ana Alliegro, Rivera's former girlfriend, who pleaded guilty last year to campaign-finance violations and making false statements in the most recent federal case involving Rivera. She recently gave grand-jury testimony against Rivera." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

Rubio Supported Rivera's 2012 Reelection Campaign, Which Was Marred By Later Allegations Of Impropriety

Rubio Supported Rivera's 2012 Reelection Campaign, Which Was Marred By Later Allegations Of Impropriety. "Alliegro confirmed she told prosecutors that Rivera was the source of about $81,000 in unreported cash that was used to fund the 2012 campaign of a

political unknown who was running in the Democratic primary against Joe Garcia, a formidable contender preparing to square off against the Republican Rivera in the general election. Garcia prevailed against the candidate to whom Rivera allegedly funneled the money, Justin Sternad, who later pleaded guilty to federal charges of breaking campaign finance laws and filing false campaign reports. That November, Garcia beat Rivera. Days before the election, Rubio recorded a robocall touting Rivera. Rubio also, however, made similar calls for other Republican candidates. In open court and at the urging of a judge, a federal prosecutor has twice labeled Rivera as an alleged criminal conspirator in the case. But Rivera doesn't just deny wrongdoing — he claims he's not the subject of a probe." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **Rubio Decided To Support Rivera's 2012 Reelection Despite Rivera Having Recently Been Investigated By Federal And State Authorities For Ethics And Legal Violations.** "In Rivera's ethics case, investigators with the Florida Commission on Ethics and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement testified before an administrative law judge at a hearing that records showed Rivera was essentially living off political committee funds and failing to disclose the money as income. Rivera also arranged a contract worth $1 million between a Miami dog track and a company owned by his mother to lead a 2008 election campaign to legalize slot machine gambling in Miami-Dade County. Rivera later acknowledged accepting at least $132,000 as part of the arrangement. But he didn't list the money on his state financial disclosure forms. At the time, Rivera told reporters he wasn't making "a penny" off the gambling referendum. And as Rivera was getting money from the company that became Magic City Casino in 2008, Rubio opposed expanding gambling while serving as House speaker. Later, after the casino deal came to light, Rivera claimed in his ethics case defense that the gambling money was a "contingent liability loan" that wasn't reportable "income." The Internal Revenue Service, which examined the payments and his finances along with the FBI, opted not to charge him after interviewing a handful of witnesses. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement also examined his finances and drafted a 52-count complaint. But the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office decided in late 2011 not to charge Rivera because of ambiguities in the state's ethics laws and, in some matters, the statute of limitations. Throughout the investigations, Rivera denied to reporters that he was the subject of the probes — even while a defense lawyer was negotiating with investigators on his behalf." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **In 2012, Rubio Defended Sticking Up For Rivera, Noting "Maybe It's Acceptable [In Washington]—It Isn't To Me—To Turn Your Back On Friends When They're Going Through A Difficult Time, No Matter, You Know, What They May Have Done Or Not Done."** "Rivera, for his part, has denied any wrongdoing and has not been charged, though the investigation is ongoing. Earlier this year, he was ordered to pay nearly $60,000 to settle an unrelated ethics complaint stemming from his time as a legislator. Rubio has consistently stood by Rivera, saying, "He's a friend, and I'm going to give him the benefit of the doubt." Pressed by Fox News in 2012 over the relationship, the senator dug in his heels over the friendship, explaining, "Maybe it's acceptable [in Washington]—it isn't to me—to turn your back on friends when they're going through a difficult time, no matter, you know, what they may have done or not done.'" (*Politico*, 11/2015)

In 2022, "Former Republican Congressman David Rivera Has Gone To A Federal Appeals Court After Being Hit With A $456,000 Fine In A Case Involving Allegations He Secretly Funneled Money To Try To Undermine A Democratic Rival";

In May 2022, "Former Republican Congressman David Rivera Has Gone To A Federal Appeals Court After Being Hit With A $456,000 Fine In A Case Involving Allegations He Secretly Funneled Money To Try To Undermine A Democratic Rival"; "The Long-Running Case Stems From Rivera's 2012 Campaign For Re-Election To Congress." "Former Republican Congressman David Rivera has gone to a federal appeals court after being hit with a $456,000 fine in a case involving allegations he secretly funneled money to try to undermine a Democratic rival. Rivera, of Miami, filed a notice last week that is a first step in asking the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to take up the case. The move came after U.S. District Judge Marcia Cooke sided with the Federal Election Commission and ordered the $456,000 fine. The long-running case stems from Rivera's 2012 campaign for re-election to Congress. Rivera faced a challenge from Democrat Joe Garcia and was alleged to have provided money to help Justin Sternad, a candidate in the Democratic primary. Garcia ultimately won the primary and defeated Rivera. The Federal Election Commission alleged that Rivera, who also is a former member of the Florida House, violated a law that bars contributions made in the names of other people. "The FEC alleges that during the Democratic primary, Rivera executed a scheme to secretly provide funds to Sternad's campaign to weaken Garcia, who was likely to be Rivera's general election opponent," Cooke wrote in a Feb. 23 summary judgment in favor of the federal agency. "In April 2012, Rivera initiated the scheme when he met with his associate, Ana Sol Alliegro and directed her to approach Sternad with an offer to provide financial support to his primary campaign. Alliegro did so, and Sternad accepted the offer. At Rivera's supposed direction, Alliegro then spent the next few months acting as an intermediary, transmitting funds to Sternad, the Sternad (political) committee and the vendors providing services to that committee." In granting summary judgment, Cooke refuted Rivera's arguments that testimony by Alliegro should be rejected. The South Florida federal judge pointed, in part, to testimony from other people, including Sternad." (CBS News, 5/5/22)

In 2022, Rivera Was Arrested "By Federal Authorities In Connection With An Ongoing Probe Into His Work With Venezuela's Authoritarian Regime."

In December 2022, Rivera Was Arrested "By Federal Authorities In Connection With An Ongoing Probe Into His Work With Venezuela's Authoritarian Regime." "Former Florida Rep. David Rivera, who had successfully outflanked a series of investigations during his lengthy political and consulting career, was arrested Monday by federal authorities in connection with an ongoing probe into his work with Venezuela's authoritarian regime. Rivera, who represented a Miami-area district from 2011 to 2013, was detained in Georgia on Wednesday in connection with a Miami grand jury indictment issued last month. His arrest was first reported by The Associated Press." (*Politico*, 12/5/22)

- **"According To The Indictment Unsealed On Monday Night, Rivera And His Former Political Consultant, Esther Nuhfer, Are Facing Charges Of Conspiring Against The U.S., Failing To Register As Foreign Agents And Engaging In Illegal**

Financial Transactions Including Money Laundering." "According to the indictment unsealed on Monday night, Rivera and his former political consultant, Esther Nuhfer, are facing charges of conspiring against the U.S., failing to register as foreign agents and engaging in illegal financial transactions including money laundering. "It was the purpose of the conspiracy for the defendants to unlawfully enrich themselves by engaging in political activities in the United States on behalf of the government of Venezuela, and by representing the interests of the government of Venezuela before officials of the of the United States government and in an effort to influence United States foreign policy," states the 34-page indictment. Before his brief stint in Congress, Rivera served as powerful budget chief while in the Legislature. He was an ally of Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), who once shared a house with him in Tallahassee. Rivera maintained his ties with various GOP officials after he left office and attended the recent one-day session where the Florida Legislature picked new leaders. Rivera's defense attorney Simon Ferro did not return a call requesting comment." (*Politico*, 12/5/22)

- **"Rivera Had Previously Come Under Criticism For Failing To Register As A Foreign Agent Despite Working For Petróleos De Venezuela, S.A., Venezuela's State-Owned Oil Company. That Company Hired Interamerican Consulting, Rivera's Firm, To Provide Consulting Services To The Country's State-Owned Oil Company."** "Rivera had previously come under criticism for failing to register as a foreign agent despite working for Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A., Venezuela's state-owned oil company. That company hired Interamerican Consulting, Rivera's firm, to provide consulting services to the country's state-owned oil company. Any work Rivera did for the Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. would require him to register as a foreign agent. Petróleos de Venezuela's subsidiary company in the U.S., however, sued Rivera, claiming he did no substantial work and sought to recover $15 million it paid to his firm. The indictment states that beginning in 2017 — shortly after former President Donald Trump took office — Rivera and Nuhfer were sought out to help lobby politicians on behalf of Venezuela and gain political support to normalize relations between the U.S. and the country led by strongman Nicolas Maduro. As part of the effort to curry favor on behalf of Venezuela, the indictment references meetings that were arranged with a U.S. congressman from Texas as well as a U.S. senator from Florida. Previous reports have already identified the congressman as former Rep. Pete Sessions. The indictment does not state the name of the senator, but Rubio played a pivotal role in advising the Trump administration over its dealings with Latin American countries." (*Politico*, 12/5/22)

In 2022, Rubio Acknowledged "That He Met With Indicted Ex-Rep. David Rivera To Discuss A Potential Deal To Normalize Relations Between The United States And Venezuela — But Didn't Know That His One-Time Friend And Long-Time Political Ally Was Working On Behalf Of Strongman Nicolás Maduro"

In December 2022, "Sen. Marco Rubio Acknowledged On Tuesday Through A Spokesperson That He Met With Indicted Ex-Rep. David Rivera To Discuss A Potential Deal To Normalize Relations Between The United States And Venezuela — But Didn't Know That His One-Time Friend And Long-Time Political Ally Was Working On Behalf Of Strongman Nicolás Maduro." "Sen. Marco Rubio acknowledged on Tuesday through a spokesperson that he met with indicted ex-Rep. David Rivera to discuss a potential deal to

normalize relations between the United States and Venezuela — but didn't know that his one-time friend and long-time political ally was working on behalf of strongman Nicolás Maduro. Rubio's dealings with Rivera emerged Monday night after federal authorities arrested and charged the former Miami lawmaker with eight criminal counts, including money laundering, conspiracy and failing to register as a foreign agent for work allegedly connected to the Maduro regime. An unsealed indictment states that Rivera and an unnamed U.S. senator from Florida met in July 2017 in Washington to discuss a possible deal with Maduro in which the Venezuelan leader would agree to "hold free and fair elections in Venezuela." The senator was not identified by name, but Rivera and Rubio have known each other for years and once owned a house together in Tallahassee. Rivera and the senator first met to discuss Venezuela on July 9, 2017 at a private residence in D.C., according to the indictment The pair gathered three days later at a Washington hotel with several others, including an unidentified Venezuelan politician who attended the meeting by telephone, according to the indictment. Rubio has been a harsh critic of Venezuela and Maduro and was seen as influential in pressing the Trump administration to keep sanctions in place. Federal authorities have not accused Rubio of any wrongdoing and he was not identified by name in the indictment. In an emailed statement, however, a spokesperson for Rubio said that "during a July 2017 meeting, Mr. Rivera told Senator Rubio that close Maduro associate Raul Gorrín wanted to personally deliver a letter from the dictator to the President outlining an agreement to hold free and fair elections and exit power. A few days later Gorrin came to a brief meeting in Washington, but produced no such letter and failed to even mention the possibility of any such deal.'" (*Politico*, 12/6/22)

RUBIO HAS TIES TO CONTROVERSIAL FIGURES ALAN MENDELSOHN AND JOEL STEINGER (MUTUAL BENEFITS CORP. PONZI SCHEME)

Rubio Has Been Linked To Alan Mendelsohn, A GOP Lobbyist And Fundraiser, Who Donated $50,000 To Rubio's Campaign In 2003; Mendelsohn Had Raised $1.5 Million From Businessman Joel Steinger, Founder And CEO Of Mutual Benefits Corp. – A $1.2 Billion Ponzi Scheme That Targeted Elderly South Florida Retirees And Helped Launder South American Drug Cartel Money

Rubio Has Been Linked To Alan Mendelsohn, A GOP Lobbyist And Fundraiser, Who Donated $50,000 To Rubio's Campaign In 2003; Mendelsohn Had Raised $1.5 Million From Businessman Joel Steinger, Founder And CEO Of Mutual Benefits Corp. – A $1.2 Billion Ponzi Scheme That Targeted Elderly South Florida Retirees And Helped Launder South American Drug Cartel Money. "Mr. Rivera and Mr. Rubio were also involved in another dubious deal in the mid-2000s that is breathtakingly brazen even by Florida's promiscuous standards and which was partially unraveled over many years by a joint FBI/DEA task force. One of the key figures in the scam was Alan Mendelsohn, a GOP lobbyist and fundraiser who raised about $2 million that he funneled to numerous Florida politicians or used for his personal benefit, according to his subsequent indictment. Of that amount about $1.5 million came from a crooked businessman named Joel Steinger. Steinger was the founder and CEO of a private company called Mutual Benefits Corp., through which he pulled off a $1.2

billion Ponzi scheme that targeted elderly South Florida retirees and members of the state's gay community. Mutual Benefits Corp. also helped a South American drug cartel launder money, evidence compiled by a the FBI/DEA task force showed. Mendelsohn funneled money to politicians through various political entities, including a political committee he set up called The Ophthalmology PAC. Steinger gave him money in the hopes of winning political support for a bill that would exempt Mutual Benefits Corp. from state regulation. Mendelsohn also got money to pass along to politicians from a few other dubious players, including a credit counseling firm and gambling companies. Mr. Rubio and Mr. Rivera each got $50,000, easily ranking them among the biggest recipients of Ophthalmology PAC cash. Mr. Rubio received his payout from Mendelsohn in December of 2003 through a PAC he set up called Floridians for Conservative Leadership. The Ophthalmology PAC was by far the biggest donor to Floridians for Conservative Leadership. Mr. Rubio used the latter to pay for, among other things, courier services performed by his wife, sister and nephews; to cover the costs of meals and lodging that were allegedly campaign-related; and to pay a close friend and lobbyist who raised money for him for what was described as political consulting work." (Observer, 2/25/16)

- **"In April Of 2004, Both Mr. Rubio And Mr. Rivera Voted For Legislation — Which Mendelsohn Aggressively Lobbied For — That Exempted Steinger's Mutual Benefits Corp. From Regulation. In May Of 2004, The SEC Ordered The Emergency Shutdown Of Steinger's Firm."** (Observer, 2/25/16)
    - **Steinger "Turned For Help To Mendelsohn And Sent Him Money To Buy Elected Republicans" In Order To Help Protect His Ponzi Scheme From Regulation.** "To remedy the situation, he created a variety of corporate and political entities to donate money to every Democrat in the state legislature. In the last four months of 2002, Steinger-linked entities sent checks totaling $550,000 to the state Democratic Party and $200,000 to the Democratic National Committee. (Steve Geller, a Democratic senator who was influential on insurance issues, "received $5,000 from Mutual Benefits-related sources," the Sun-Sentinel reported back in a 2009 summary of the whole affair.) This had the desired effect, and Democrats came together to write a piece of legislation in 2003 that exempted Viaticals from state regulation. Since Steinger's Mutual Benefits Corp. was a private insurance and investment company, the SEC had no ability to regulate him either. So this legislation would leave Mutual Benefits entirely regulation-free. Tragically for Steinger, the Democrats didn't have the political muscle to get the bill passed. So he turned for help to Mendelsohn and sent him money to buy elected Republicans. The state Republican Party received $25,000 from Steinger-linked entities in the year after the vote. A PAC associated with Kim Berfield, then Republican chairwoman of the House insurance committee got $10,000 and a PAC for future Senate leader Ken Pruitt received $2,500. All told, Mendelsohn, his family and his major political committee contributed at least $708,000 to more than 275 legislators, legislative candidates and state causes, according to the The Tampa Bay Times. Mendelsohn's average contribution, then, was just $2,574.55." (Observer, 2/25/16)
    - **"That's Why The $50,000 Received By Mr. Rubio From The Ophthalmology PAC — One Of Mendelsohn's Main Vehicles To Accomplish Steinger's**

Desires — Stands Out So Much, Especially Since He Got The Cash Just A Few Months Before He Voted To Exempt Mutual Benefits Corp. From Regulation. The Vote Was Held In April 2004 — Just A Month, As It Turned Out, Before The SEC Shut Down Mutual Benefits Corp. The Steinger/Mendelsohn Lobbying Strategy Was So Effective That Only One House Member And One Senator Opposed The Bill." "That's why the $50,000 received by Mr. Rubio from The Ophthalmology PAC — one of Mendelsohn's main vehicles to accomplish Steinger's desires — stands out so much, especially since he got the cash just a few months before he voted to exempt Mutual Benefits Corp. from regulation. The vote was held in April 2004 — just a month, as it turned out, before the SEC shut down Mutual Benefits Corp. The Steinger/Mendelsohn lobbying strategy was so effective that only one house member and one senator opposed the bill. The senator, Democrat Skip Campbell, later said that legislators overwhelmingly voted for the bill for one reason only: political contributions. "It was clear to me that this was a big Ponzi scheme and would bite a lot of people," he told the Sun-Sentinel. But in the aftermath of the vote, Steinger, Mendelsohn, Mr. Rubio and almost the entire Florida congress were thrilled with the outcome. It looked like a win-win for them all." (Observer, 2/25/16)

- **"In 2014, Steinger Was Sentenced To Twenty Years In Prison. "Mr. Steinger, I Could Very Easily Sentence You To 50 Years As A Very Justifiable Sentence And Never Lose A Moment's Sleep," Judge Robert Scola Said At The Time. (Steve Haguel, Steinger's Lawyer, Declined Comment Other Than To Say That He Had Appealed The Verdict.)"** (Observer, 2/25/16)

- **Steinger Had Previously Been Fined And Sanctioned By Federal Authorities nd Is Known To Have Connections To The Mob.** "In the 1980s, Joel Steinger and several relatives ran Tara Securities Group, a boiler room that ripped off a boatload of naive investors. (Martin Scorcese's film The Wolf of Wall Street perfectly captures the boiler room, a term used to describe a fraud by which a scammer rents an impressive-looking office, lines up employees to cold call potential investors, and suckers them into putting their savings into financial schemes promising big returns that never materialize.) The Securities and Exchange Commission shut down Tara Securities Group, banned Steinger from commodities trading and, hit him with a paltry civil fine of $30,000. Steinger had a sleazy past even before Tara Securities. Back in 1979, the Commodities Futures Trading Commission barred him from acting as a commodity trading professional for his role in another scam that involved a company called Crown Colony Commodity Options Ltd., according to his indictment and several news accounts. Steinger's colorful career, convictions and mob connections, can be reviewed in this article. But Steinger still had to make a living so in 1994 he started a new private company, Mutual Benefits Corp., which was in the Viaticals business. That's the term — derived from a Latin word meaning "provisions for a long journey" — for the practice of buying life insurance policies at a steeply discounted price from desperate people who are about to die. Steiner quickly figured out that a great place to find dying people who would sell their life insurance policies cheap was the AIDS-plagued gay community in South Florida. So he hooked up with some clinics and doctors and used them to pitch terminally ill HIV patients who

> were desperate for quick money and would sell their life insurance policies for pennies on the dollar. To ratchet up profits even more Steinger retained a doctor, Clark Mitchell, to diagnose people as being terminally ill when they were in fact perfectly healthy. Of course, the investors in Mutual Benefits Corp. started getting angry when people who sold the firm their life insurance policies didn't die because that meant they didn't get the huge returns Steinger promised them (up to 72 percent, according to this story). Investors complained to the Florida Attorney General, who began looking into the situation, which alarmed Steinger." (Observer, 2/25/16)

Rubio Continued To Be Associated With Mendelsohn, Who Helped Kick Off Rubio's Senate Campaign, Through 2009; "In 2011 Mendelsohn Was Sentenced To Three Years In Prison For Using "His Political Connections To Assist Clients In Obtaining And Defeating Legislation," According To His Indictment"

Rubio Continued To Be Associated With Mendelsohn, Who Helped Kick Off Rubio's Senate Campaign, Through 2009; "In 2011 Mendelsohn Was Sentenced To Three Years In Prison For Using "His Political Connections To Assist Clients In Obtaining And Defeating Legislation," According To His Indictment." "As late as 2009, Mendelsohn was one of Mr. Rubio's leading fundraisers and that year hosted an event at his home to kick off Mr. Rubio's run for a U.S. Senate seat. That May the Broward Palm Beach New Times reported that Mendelsohn had resigned from his post as treasurer of yet another PAC he had created amid "rampant speculation" about the extent of his ties to Steinger. Mr. Rubio "doesn't seem very concerned about any political fallout that may come as more facts emerge about Mr. Mendelsohn in the Steinger case," the newspaper reported. "Either Rubio knows something the rest of us don't or he doesn't mind risking his reputation for some serious campaign dough." In 2011 Mendelsohn was sentenced to three years in prison for using "his political connections to assist clients in obtaining and defeating legislation," according to his indictment. During his sentencing, Judge William Zloch, said the disgraced lobbyist's misconduct was like a "cancer" with "tentacles" that hindered good government across the state, according to the Tampa Bay Times. (Mendelsohn's lawyer, Alvin Entin, declined comment.)" (Observer, 2/25/16)

RUBIO HAS TIES TO CONTROVERSIAL FIGURE MARK CERECEDA

In 2007, Rubio Netted A $205,000 Profit On A Florida Home He Sold To Nora Cereceda, Whose Son Mark Cereceda Was A Chiropractor With A Lengthy Criminal Record; "Shortly After Mr. Rubio Sold The House, He Did A 180-Degree Rotation On A Key Insurance Bill For Which Dr. Cereceda Had Been Lobbying"

In 2007, Rubio Netted A $205,000 Profit On A Florida Home He Sold To Nora Cereceda, Whose Son Mark Cereceda Was A Chiropractor With A Lengthy Criminal Record; "Shortly After Mr. Rubio Sold The House, He Did A 180-Degree Rotation On A Key Insurance Bill For Which Dr. Cereceda Had Been Lobbying." "Meanwhile, Mr. Rubio was making more money on two highly suspicious real estate deals. In the first, Mr. Rubio had a little help from Mark Cereceda, a chiropractor with a lengthy rap sheet. I should note here that after Dr. Cereceda lent a financial hand, Mr. Rubio flipped his position on a key issue of great import to the chiropractor. Here are the key details: In 2003, Mr. Rubio bought his first house (at 6247

14th Street SW in West Miami) for $175,000, putting zero money down. He put it up for sale in 2005 but had difficulty selling it because of a weak local real estate market. But gracias a Dios, Dr. Cereceda's mama, Nora Cereceda (now deceased), bought Mr. Rubio's house in 2007 for $380,000 cash, netting Mr. Rubio a profit of about $205,000. Que suerte! Shortly after Mr. Rubio sold the house, he did a 180-degree rotation on a key insurance bill for which Dr. Cereceda had been lobbying. Whereas he had previously been an outspoken opponent of the measure—indeed, he was described in one local press item at the time as "the main holdout"—he ended up voting for the legislation, which required Florida drivers to purchase $10,000 worth of personal injury Insurance." (Observer, 1/18/16)

"Many Of Dr. Cereceda's Clients Were Injured Drivers Who Paid Him With Insurance Money. And By The Way, Reported Cases Of Personal Injury Fraud Immediately Soared In Florida After The Measure Passed"

"Many Of Dr. Cereceda's Clients Were Injured Drivers Who Paid Him With Insurance Money. And By The Way, Reported Cases Of Personal Injury Fraud Immediately Soared In Florida After The Measure Passed." (Observer, 1/18/16)

"Dr. Cereceda Has A Lengthy Arrest Record Both Prior To And After His Mama Bought Mr. Rubio's House…."

"Dr. Cereceda Has A Lengthy Arrest Record Both Prior To And After His Mama Bought Mr. Rubio's House. In 2003, He Was Arrested On Charges Of Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon. Two Years Later, He Was Arrested For Felony Battery And Also For Disorderly Conduct, And Then In 2013 He Was Busted For Running An Illegal Political Contribution Scheme By Which He Ordered His Employees To Contribute To Political Campaigns In Their Names And Then He And His Relatives Reimbursed Them." "Dr. Cereceda has a lengthy arrest record both prior to and after his mama bought Mr. Rubio's house. In 2003, he was arrested on charges of Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon. Two years later, he was arrested for Felony Battery and also for Disorderly Conduct, and then in 2013 he was busted for running an illegal political contribution scheme by which he ordered his employees to contribute to political campaigns in their names and then he and his relatives reimbursed them. The doctor got off light. He was sentenced to house arrest and given probation. Dr. Cereceda has been a big donor to Ana Maria Pando, a disgraced former Hialeah branch county court judge, who wrote a letter to state authorities—on official letterhead—asking that Dr. Cereceda's company be reinstated after it got into some legal trouble. Pando was later convicted for taking a bribe from Dr. Cereceda, who ratted her out." (Observer, 1/18/16)

RUBIO HAS TIES TO CONTROVERSIAL FIGURE ESTEBAN BOVO

"When Mr. Rubio Stepped Down From The House In 2008 (Two Years Before He Ran And Won A U.S. Senate Seat) He Became Partner In Another Law/Lobbying Firm—Florida Strategic Consultants—With The Wife Of A Notoriously Corrupt Florida Politician And Lobbyist Named Esteban Bovo, Sometimes Known As 'El Bobo'"

"When Mr. Rubio Stepped Down From The House In 2008 (Two Years Before He Ran And Won A U.S. Senate Seat) He Became Partner In Another Law/Lobbying Firm—Florida Strategic Consultants—With The Wife Of A Notoriously Corrupt Florida Politician And Lobbyist Named Esteban Bovo, Sometimes Known As 'El Bobo.'" "Then, when Mr. Rubio stepped down from the House in 2008 (two years before he ran and won a U.S. Senate seat) he became partner in another law/lobbying firm—Florida Strategic Consultants—with the wife of a notoriously corrupt Florida politician and lobbyist named Esteban Bovo, sometimes known as "El Bobo." (El Bobo's wife, Vivian Bovo, had been Mr. Rubio's top aide in the House.) While working at the firm, Mr. Rubio scored fat contracts from Miami Children's Hospital and Jackson Memorial Hospital. Meanwhile, El Bobo was in position to appropriate money for the hospitals as chairman of a subcommittee of the Florida House Budget Committee. It was a win-win for Mr. Rubio and the Bovo clan." (Observer, 1/18/16)

RUBIO HAS TIES TO CONTROVERSIAL FIGURE WAYNE BERMAN

In 2015, Citizens For Responsibility And Ethics In Washington (CREW) "Filed A Criminal Complaint Against Mr. Rubio's National Finance Chairman, Wayne Berman, Accusing Him Of Lying To Investigators And Apparently Taking More Than A Million Dollars From A Non-Profit"

In 2015, Citizens For Responsibility And Ethics In Washington (CREW) "Filed A Criminal Complaint Against Mr. Rubio's National Finance Chairman, Wayne Berman, Accusing Him Of Lying To Investigators And Apparently Taking More Than A Million Dollars From A Non-Profit." "Last year Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) filed a complaint with the IRS against Conservative Solutions Project, a political organization spending millions of dollars on pro-Rubio ads while masquerading as a "social welfare" non-profit. It also filed a criminal complaint against Mr. Rubio's national finance chairman, Wayne Berman, accusing him of lying to investigators and apparently taking more than a million dollars from a non-profit. And in 2012, CREW named David Rivera as one of the "Most Corrupt Members of Congress." "Senator Rubio and his circle are no strangers to ethics issues," the group's spokesman, Jordan Libowitz, told me. Mr. Rubio's presidential campaign, Mr. Rivera's attorney, Michael Band, and the FBI declined comment for this story." (Observer, 2/25/16)

Berman Is "A Prominent Republican Donor And Senior Executive At The Blackstone Group"

Berman Is "A Prominent Republican Donor And Senior Executive At The Blackstone Group." "Sen. Marco Rubio will raise money later this month at the Washington home of Wayne Berman, a prominent Republican donor and senior executive at the Blackstone Group.

Guests attending the April 30 dinner will pay $10,000 to be a co-chairman; $5,400 to be a co-host; and $2,700 to be a regular attendee at the reception, according to an invitation obtained by CNN and confirmed by Berman. The eight co-chairs listed on the invite include well-known figures in Washington circles, such as Rob Chamberlin of McBee Strategic; Joe Wall of Goldman Sachs; Jennifer Larkin Lukawski of the BGR Group; and Scott Weaver of Wiley Rein. Rubio kicked off his campaign for president earlier this week, joining his Senate colleagues, Ted Cruz of Texas and Rand Paul of Kentucky, in the Republican field. Assembling a prominent list of K Street supporters is a show of force for Rubio, who is competing for Washington support with the two other senators, as well as Jeb Bush, who has deep connections to the D.C. influence world. Berman is one of Rubio's top supporters and estimates he has hosted around a dozen or so events for the Florida senator in recent years. Reached on the phone Wednesday morning, Berman said the list of heavy-hitter co-chairs listed on the invitation for the April 30 dinner demonstrates the level of enthusiasm for the senator's White House bid. "Sen. Rubio has attracted a well-known group of highly effective Republican fundraisers to chair the event, and I'm honored to be hosting it at my house," Berman said. "There's a lot of excitement building around his campaign, particularly coming off a wildly successful launch in Miami.'" (CNN, 4/15/15)

RUBIO HAS TIES TO CONTROVERSIAL FIGURE NORMAN BRAMAN

Rubio's Major Financial Backer Norman Braman Was Also Known To Employ Rubio's Wife Through The Braman Family's Philanthropic Foundation – "Making Theirs A Unique Donor-Politician Relationship"

Rubio's Major Financial Backer Norman Braman Was Also Known To Employ Rubio's Wife Through The Braman Family's Philanthropic Foundation – "Making Theirs A Unique Donor-Politician Relationship." "When Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) announces his plans to run for president next week — as expected — he'll launch his formal campaign and be limited in how much money he can raise. But he'll have the help of a new super PAC, Conservative Solutions, which formally launched Thursday under the leadership of J. Warren Tompkins, a veteran South Carolina Republican operative. One of the biggest financial backers of the PAC is expected to be Norman Braman, a billionaire businessman and philanthropist who runs auto dealerships across South Florida and in the Denver area. He's the former owner of the Philadelphia Eagles and a major history buff — his Miami office, on the second floor of one of his downtown dealerships, is adorned with framed letters written by Colonial and Civil War-era generals and lawmakers. He keeps a treasure trove of Abraham Lincoln swag at his home, he said. Braman is not only a Rubio backer and donor, but his family's philanthropic foundation also employs Jeanette Rubio, the senator's wife, on a part-time basis — making theirs a unique donor-politician relationship. In a recent interview with The Washington Post, Braman, 82, discussed his relationship with Rubio — including the time they traveled to Israel in 2010, and why he's not supporting former Florida governor Jeb Bush — and, why he doesn't regret giving up his team." (*The Washington Post*, 4/9/15)

“Braman Also Employed Rubio As A Lawyer During The Latter's 2010 Campaign For The Senate — And Now Employs His Wife, Jeannette Rubio, An Arrangement That Began Shortly After Her Husband Was Elected”

“Braman Also Employed Rubio As A Lawyer During The Latter's 2010 Campaign For The Senate — And Now Employs His Wife, Jeannette Rubio, An Arrangement That Began Shortly After Her Husband Was Elected.” “Presidential candidate Marco Rubio on Saturday defended his ties to a major donor who’s bankrolled his political career and personally employed both Rubio and his wife. Rubio’s relationship with Norman Braman, a billionaire South Florida auto dealer and former owner of the Philadelphia Eagles, has come under scrutiny — notably in the pages of The New York Times this weekend — as the freshman Florida senator has mounted a presidential bid. "Norm Braman is a great man, a pillar of the South Florida community and someone who I’m personally close to. I’m very proud to be associated with him,” Rubio said in an interview early Saturday evening, after he walked up and down Greenville’s Main Street shaking hands with voters. He repeated past assertions that there’s no ethical conflicts in the relationship because Braman has never asked him for political favors. "I’m proud that he’s a donor, I’m proud that he’s a friend. And I’m proud that he was a client,” Rubio said. “The only thing Norman Braman’s ever asked my help on is charities, whether it’s a cancer center, or a genomics center at the University of Miami.” Rubio and his family have benefited both personally and politically from Braman since the start of the senator’s political career. Braman donated money to Rubio’s campaigns and would likely be a major backer for the super PAC that’s been formed to help support Rubio’s presidential run. Braman also employed Rubio as a lawyer during the latter's 2010 campaign for the Senate — and now employs his wife, Jeannette Rubio, an arrangement that began shortly after her husband was elected.” (MSNBC, 5/9/15)

RUBIO HAS TIES TO THE CONTROVERSIAL FANJUL FAMILY

Rubio Is Known To Have A Close, Longstanding Political Leadership With The Fanjul Family, Which Owns Sugar Conglomerate Florida Crystals And Prominently Supports Continued Sugar Industry Subsidies That Rubio Also Backs

Rubio Is Known To Have A Close, Longstanding Political Leadership With The Fanjul Family, Which Owns Sugar Conglomerate Florida Crystals And Prominently Supports Continued Sugar Industry Subsidies That Rubio Also Backs. “After talking about being the son of a bartender during his announcement to run for president last year, Marco Rubio walked off stage in Miami and hugged a middle-age man in a tan suit. That man was Jose "Pepe" Fanjul, the patriarch of the family that owns sugar giant Florida Crystals and whom Rubio has credited for helping him win the U.S. Senate seat he's defending this year. The Fanjuls and their company have supported Rubio since his first election to the Florida House in 2000 and stood by him as he became the speaker, a senator and a presidential candidate. And Rubio has stood by many of the company's positions, in particular related to the environment and Lake Okeechobee discharges. In addition to the $504,000 the Fanjuls and their company have given to support the Republican, they have organized dozens of fundraisers and introduced him to key political players. The sugar industry, including Florida Crystals competitor U.S. Sugar Corp., has invested $632,000 on Rubio since 2000. Rubio and the Fanjuls share a common personal background. Pepe and his

brother, Alfonso, were born into a prominent Cuban sugar family that fled the island after Fidel Castro seized power in 1959. They created one of the nation's largest sugar productions in South Florida, with operations in the Dominican Republic as well. Rubio's parents left the island in 1956. "The Fanjuls believed in me early on, when few others did, and I'm grateful for that," Rubio said in an emailed statement. He declined to be interviewed for this story. Despite winning the Senate in 2010 on an anti-big government platform, Rubio is a staunch defender of a federal program that artificially inflates sugar prices. The Great Depression-era program sets quotas on imports and gives growers loans they can repay with surplus sugar if prices fall near of below the loan rate. The program has many opponents: environmentalists; manufacturers that use sugar in their products, like candy makers; and the corn industry, which produces corn syrup, a sugar substitute. Congress has voted to continue the program several times with support from several Florida lawmakers. The sugar industry employs 14,000 to 15,000 people in Florida, and Rubio is prepared to eliminate the program once other countries end their sugar subsidies, he said in a 2015 "Meet the Press" interview. "If the American sugar industry is wiped out because, for example, the Brazilians heavily subsidize theirs," Rubio said, "once we are out of the picture, the Brazilians now hold a disproportionate share of the sugar industry and at that point they can charge whatever they want for it." Rubio's Democratic opponent, U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy, voted against a 2013 amendment to reform the federal sugar program. Murphy, who represents the Treasure Coast and northern Palm Beach County, "supports working with our trading partners to remove subsidies and barriers so that all sides can compete on a level playing field," his campaign said." (TC Palm, 11/4/16)

RUBIO HAS TIES TO THE CONTROVERSIAL FLORIDIANS FOR CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (FCLC)

In 2002, Rubio's Wife Incorporated A Nonprofit PAC Called Floridians For Conservative Leadership Committee (FCLC); The PAC Received Assistance From Alexander Heckler (A Prominent Democratic Attorney Known For His Support For Hillary Clinton And Links To Straw Donations) And Joaquin Urquiola (Linked To A Bank Tied To Money Laundering For South American Cartels)

In 2002, Rubio's Wife Incorporated A Nonprofit PAC Called Floridians For Conservative Leadership Committee (FCLC); The PAC Received Assistance From Alexander Heckler (A Prominent Democratic Attorney Known For His Support For Hillary Clinton And Links To Straw Donations) And Joaquin Urquiola (Linked To A Bank Tied To Money Laundering For South American Cartels). "I mentioned above a PAC and a bribe so let me turn to that story now, which actually involved a few of Mr. Rubio's PACs and assorted businesses. Pay particular attention here to three key figures who were all intimate, longtime friends of Mr. Rubio's: —Alexander Heckler, an attorney who in 2011 was found to have set up PACs that shuffled illegal straw donations to political candidates for his clients. Heckler, a lawyer and leading Florida lobbyist as well as a "Hillraiser," the term for then-Senator Hillary Clinton's top fundraisers, performed legal and accounting services for the treasurer of a Rubio-affiliated PAC, but only disclosed that several years afterwards, apparently to obscure his role. Heckler is also the stepson of Franklin Sands, who for many years—including the period when

the story below took place—was the most powerful Democrat in the Florida House. —Joaquin Urquiola, the treasurer for the two Rubio-affiliated PACs who Heckler did work for, who at the same time was being questioned by federal regulators about his role at an Ecuadorian bank with Miami offices that was suspected of violating anti-money laundering laws by taking in cash from several South American drug cartels. Urquiola was an accountant and director of the bank, Pacific National Bank, and he and Pacific were in fact subsequently hit with fines for violating anti-money laundering laws and the Bank Secrecy Act. According to a 2011 story about the case in the South Florida Business Journal, the bank and its directors had previously been sanctioned for similar crimes and allowed "the violations to continue for years." —Bridget Nocco, the lobbyist friend of Mr. Rubio's whom I mentioned above. The story begins in late 2002 when Jeanette Dousdebes, Mr. Rubio's wife, incorporated a nonprofit PAC called Floridians for Conservative Leadership Committee (FCLC). She was the registered agent and only director for this short-lived entity, which the State of Florida dissolved three years later because it had failed to file an annual report. Urquiola, the executive at the bank that allowed a drug cartel to launder money, was the group's treasurer, and Heckler quietly helped him out, according to information provided to me by the National Legal and Policy Center, a Virginia-based watchdog group that provided key research for this section of the story. During its brief existence, FCLC raised $228,350, of which roughly $35,000 disappeared into thin air, according to the entity's own tax returns. Its largest donor by far was a scandal-plagued PAC called OPH ($50,000) but Democratic super-lobbyist Ron Book also gave generously. Bridget Nocco, Mr. Rubio's lobbyist pal, was paid nearly $26,000 by the PAC for salary and consulting services, according to its nonprofit tax filings with the IRS." (Observer, 1/18/16)

Rubio "Made The Most Of A Loophole In State Financial Disclosure Rules By Creating A 'Committee Of Continuous Existence,' An Orwellian-Sounding Fund Not Subject To State Sunshine Laws. He Poured Almost $230,000 Into The Fund, Which He Then Used To Crisscross The State And Lobby Legislators"

Rubio "Made The Most Of A Loophole In State Financial Disclosure Rules By Creating A 'Committee Of Continuous Existence,' An Orwellian-Sounding Fund Not Subject To State Sunshine Laws. He Poured Almost $230,000 Into The Fund, Which He Then Used To Crisscross The State And Lobby Legislators." "But he also made the most of a loophole in state financial disclosure rules by creating a "committee of continuous existence," an Orwellian-sounding fund not subject to state Sunshine Laws. He poured almost $230,000 into the fund, which he then used to crisscross the state and lobby legislators. The biggest donors to the group, called Floridians for Conservative Leadership, included a who's who of big businesses Rubio later supported as speaker, according to a recent review of the committee's records by the St. Petersburg Times, which reported on the leaked documents. There was U.S. Sugar, Florida Crystals, and AT&T.; (There was also $50,000 from Alan Mendelsohn, a Broward ophthalmologist arrested last year by the FBI on corruption charges.)" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

“In All, The Fund (Which Was Chartered To Support Conservative Candidates Statewide) Spent 99 Percent Of Its Cash — All But $4,000 — On Rubio Himself, A Clear Contradiction Of Its Charter”

“In All, The Fund (Which Was Chartered To Support Conservative Candidates Statewide) Spent 99 Percent Of Its Cash — All But $4,000 — On Rubio Himself, A Clear Contradiction Of Its Charter.” “Even more troubling, according to the newspaper: Rubio failed to disclose $34,000 he spent out of the fund, including $7,000 he paid himself in 2003 and 2004. He also paid his wife $5,700, supposedly for working as treasurer, and spent more than $51,000 to reimburse credit card expenses for restaurants, hotels, and travel. In all, the fund (which was chartered to support conservative candidates statewide) spent 99 percent of its cash — all but $4,000 — on Rubio himself, a clear contradiction of its charter. Asked by the St. Petersburg Times about the spending, Rubio blasted his opponent, Charlie Crist: "None of our donors has ever questioned how the money was spent. In fact, the only one raising this question is the Crist campaign." In November 2003, thanks in part to his fund, Rubio defeated fellow Republican Jeff Kottkamp for speaker. It was a historic win — no descendent of Cubans had ever held the post, and Rubio, at 32 years old, was by far the youngest.” (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

“Mr. Rubio, Urquiola And Heckler Were All Players In Another Shady Deal, This One Involving A Nonprofit PAC Called Floridians For Real Family Values Inc. It Was Set Up By Heckler In 2006—The Year Mr. Rubio Was Sworn In As Speaker Of The Florida House”

“Mr. Rubio, Urquiola And Heckler Were All Players In Another Shady Deal, This One Involving A Nonprofit PAC Called Floridians For Real Family Values Inc. It Was Set Up By Heckler In 2006—The Year Mr. Rubio Was Sworn In As Speaker Of The Florida House.” “Mr. Rubio, Urquiola and Heckler were all players in another shady deal, this one involving a nonprofit PAC called Floridians for Real Family Values Inc. It was set up by Heckler in 2006—the year Mr. Rubio was sworn in as speaker of the Florida House. For some reason Heckler failed to disclose to Florida election authorities that Urquiola was the PAC’s treasurer, but he was listed as filling that role in the group’s federal tax returns, which Heckler filed. What’s also odd is that the federal tax identification number Urquiola used for Floridians for Real Family Values’ tax return was actually the same used by the FCLG, the 527 that Mr. Rubio created and was president of, which suggests that the two entities were essentially identical. Between October 24 and November 2 of 2006, Floridians for Real Family Values raised $244,000. Also in 2006, Urquiola incorporated a company called Florida Media Productions Group Inc., which operated out of the same address as the FCLG. Florida Media Productions Group was established to work on behalf of political campaigns, but there’s not much evidence that the company did any work at all. It never bothered to set up a website nor did it ever create a single TV, print or online campaign ad. The only income it ever received—about $150,000—came from two Heckler’s controlled PACs, one being Floridians for Real Family Values. All that money was paid for “consulting” services, though the payments were made long after the election year was over. Most of the money raised by Floridians for Real Family Values that didn’t go to Florida Media Productions Group—about $33,000—simply disappeared when the former was shut down.” (Observer, 1/18/16)

“Again, His Financial Management Was Questionable. The St. Petersburg Times Found That $14,000 From The Fund Went To Rubio's Mother-In-Law And Two Of His Wife's Cousins For "Courier Work." About One-Fifth Of The Committee's Expenses Were Never Accounted For At All. Rubio Says That's Because The Money Went Toward Expenses Under $500, Which Don't Have To Be Detailed”

“Again, His Financial Management Was Questionable. The St. Petersburg Times Found That $14,000 From The Fund Went To Rubio's Mother-In-Law And Two Of His Wife's Cousins For "Courier Work." About One-Fifth Of The Committee's Expenses Were Never Accounted For At All. Rubio Says That's Because The Money Went Toward Expenses Under $500, Which Don't Have To Be Detailed.” “Again, his financial management was questionable. The St. Petersburg Times found that $14,000 from the fund went to Rubio's mother-in-law and two of his wife's cousins for "courier work." About one-fifth of the committee's expenses were never accounted for at all. Rubio says that's because the money went toward expenses under $500, which don't have to be detailed. He used the second fund to thrust himself onto the national stage, thanks to a campaign called 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future. The tour had Rubio and other Republicans traveling the state for so-called idearaiser town halls with voters. Rubio later published the ideas in a book and was hailed as a rising GOP star. (Gingrich, for example, predicted Rubio would "emerge as a national leader" and called the project "a work of genius.") By 2005, Rubio's official election ceremony as speaker felt like a coronation. Supporters in Miami broadcast it live to Cuba on Radio Martí. And Bush presented his mystical sword of conservative power. But Rubio's promise would soon devolve into partisan bickering, and his golden-boy image would take a pounding thanks to his choice of friends and some questionable financial moves.” (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

CRITICS HAVE SUGGESTED RUBIO IS KNOWN FOR HIS AMBITION, OPPORTUNISM, AND SELF-PROMOTION

“Rubio’s Detractors, And Even Some Admirers, Suggest That His Career So Far Has Been Less About Good Government Than Politics And Self-Promotion”; Rubio Has Also Been Accused Of Making Deals That Harm His Own Constituents

“Rubio’s Detractors, And Even Some Admirers, Suggest That His Career So Far Has Been Less About Good Government Than Politics And Self-Promotion”; Rubio Has Also Been Accused Of Making Deals That Harm His Own Constituents. “Rubio’s detractors, and even some admirers, suggest that his career so far has been less about good government than politics and self-promotion. His autobiography recounts virtually no substantive achievements beyond a hometown tree-planting project. In the class, he devoted much of his time to recounting the machinations that persuaded his colleagues to elect him speaker: “You raise money for them. You befriend them. You make sure your kids are friends with their kids. And then you cut the best deal you can.” He didn’t mention that the deal he reportedly cut to secure North Florida support for his candidacy revised funding formulas at the expense of his South Florida constituents. “Marco Rubio’s going to do whatever’s good for Marco Rubio,” says former Hialeah mayor Raul Martinez, a Democratic rival in Florida’s rough-and-tumble exile politics.” (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Rubio "Is A World-Class Opportunist With An Uncanny Habit Of Being In The Right Place At The Right Time. He's Driven, Ambitious, And Relentless. And He's A Hypocrite…"

Rubio "Is A World-Class Opportunist With An Uncanny Habit Of Being In The Right Place At The Right Time. He's Driven, Ambitious, And Relentless. And He's A Hypocrite…" "None of these views is quite accurate. Though Rubio declined multiple invitations for an interview over the past year, New Times trailed him for a month across 1,300 miles of rallies from Tampa Bay to Orlando. We also spoke to family, friends, former football teammates, and present-day adversaries. Rubio, we found, is a world-class opportunist with an uncanny habit of being in the right place at the right time. He's driven, ambitious, and relentless. And he's a hypocrite: a "fiscally conservative" Republican who has let his own home lapse into foreclosure, likely abused state party credit cards, and spent tens of thousands of dollars in political donations on personal expenses. He's a supposed outsider who's been a party-line politician since he was 26 years old." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **A Former Republican Legislator Has Claimed Rubio Is "A Conniving Opportunist Who Used His Friends To Get What He Wanted…"** "But even in the runup to his coronation as speaker, critics began to snipe that his ambition blinded him to the norms of ethical behavior. "He's a conniving opportunist who used his friends to get what he wanted," says a fellow Republican legislator who asked not to be named because he's still in the GOP. "He screwed Miami-Dade on budget after budget, and he got rich off his connections.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

During His Tenure In The Florida Statehouse, Rubio "Completed A Remarkable Transformation From Moderate, Fresh-Faced West Miami Kid…"

"Rubio Did Not Cloak His Ambition" While Seeking Ever More Substantial House Leadership Roles

During His Tenure In The Florida Statehouse, Rubio "Completed A Remarkable Transformation From Moderate, Fresh-Faced West Miami Kid…" "With that bizarre gesture, Rubio completed a remarkable transformation from moderate, fresh-faced West Miami kid with only a battered Toyota to his name into one of the most powerful men in Tallahassee. In a little more than five years, he had morphed into a "conservative warrior" with three homes and a $300,000-per-year law gig; he had become a potential heir to the Bush legacy." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **"Rubio Did Not Cloak His Ambition" While Seeking Ever More Substantial House Leadership Roles.** "Rubio did not cloak his ambition. When Fasano resigned as majority leader after a flap with the House speaker in September 2001, the first call he received was from Rubio, who was already wrangling for the legislator's old job. "It wasn't, 'How's everything going?' It was, 'Can you help me become majority leader?' " recalls Fasano. (The former legislator is now supporting Bush for president.) "He had only been a member of the Florida Legislature for a couple of years. He wasn't thinking about what good he could do for the Legislature, for his party, and for his constituents. He was thinking about what good he could do for himself." (Rubio declined to be interviewed for

this article.) He didn't get the majority leader post that time; the speaker chose a more experienced lawmaker. But another opportunity soon came along. In his second year in the Legislature, he volunteered to help a committee tasked with the once-in-a-decade ritual of redrawing voting district boundaries. It's a tedious task, one that involves managing the grievances of dozens of lawmakers whose political careers could end with the shifting of lines. Johnnie Byrd, a Republican leader on his way to becoming speaker, thought Rubio would be perfect for the job. "He has this real ability to communicate with people all over the state," Byrd says. "Many Miami-based legislators don't have that ability to communicate statewide, so I let him run with it.' Fueled by a steady diet of Mountain Dew and Cuban coffee, Rubio pored over the legislative maps. He broke the state into five regions and met one-on-one with lawmakers to help draw boundaries. "The most personal thing a legislator ever has to deal with is their own district," Byrd says, "and he was able to make them reasonably happy. … Imagine a freshman legislator in an organization driven by seniority and he captivates all of them, on both sides of the aisle, and brings it in for a landing." Rubio's hustle endeared him to leadership, and in late 2002, he was appointed majority leader. At some level, it was a natural stepping stone to House speaker. Yet Rubio's supporters discouraged the move, saying it would kill his speakership ambitions before they left the cradle. "I would be in the vote-counting business, and would have to twist arms on difficult votes, making as many enemies as friends in the process," he wrote in his memoir. His solution? He persuaded Byrd, the speaker, to restructure the jobmaking him primarily the chief spokesman for the House GOP while transferring the more difficult legislative wrangling to the whip's office." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

While Serving As Speaker, "Some Said Rubio's Personal Ambitions Had Overshadowed The Needs Of His Party"

While Serving As Speaker, "Some Said Rubio's Personal Ambitions Had Overshadowed The Needs Of His Party." "During his two years as speaker of the Florida House, Rubio repeatedly clashed with Gov. Charlie Crist. "I think Charlie Crist was his worst nightmare when it came to moving the agenda that he wanted to move," says one of Rubio's former colleagues. (AP Photo/Phil Coale)Some said Rubio's personal ambitions had overshadowed the needs of his party. "He oversaw the single worst election cycle for Republicans in state history," says Steve Schale, the strategist who ran the House Democrats' campaign. "He was focused on a lot of legacy-building things and not recruiting good candidates and running good races.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

RUBIO FAMOUSLY FLIP-FLOPPED ON RUNNING FOR SENATE IN 2016

In 2016, Rubio Announced That He Would "Seek Reelection To The Senate, Reversing A Pledge He Made A Year Ago To Either Assume The Presidency Or Return To Private Life In Florida"

In June 2016, Rubio Announced That He Would "Seek Reelection To The Senate, Reversing A Pledge He Made A Year Ago To Either Assume The Presidency Or Return To Private Life In Florida." "Sen. Marco Rubio said Wednesday he will seek reelection to the

Senate, reversing a pledge he made a year ago to either assume the presidency or return to private life in Florida. The decision instantly transforms an already competitive race and improves Republicans' chances of maintaining the Senate majority. Rubio (R-Fla.) issued a lengthy statement explaining his decision to reverse course, citing the Senate's power to "act as a check and balance on the excesses of a president" as a central reason. "Control of the Senate may very well come down to the race in Florida," he said. "That means the future of the Supreme Court will be determined by the Florida Senate seat. It means the future of the disastrous Iran nuclear deal will be determined by the Florida Senate seat. It means the direction of our country's fiscal and economic policies will be determined by this Senate seat. The stakes for our nation could not be higher." His entry into the race comes shortly before a Friday deadline for candidate filings and after weeks of pressure from national GOP figures who urged Rubio to reconsider his frequently repeated intention to either become president or a "private citizen" come 2017. Those entreaties were rooted in blunt political reality: Rubio, with his near-universal name recognition and proven fundraising capacity, would give Republicans their best chance of winning the swing-state seat and, perhaps, retaining the Senate majority. "I think it moves Florida from a likely loss to an almost certain pickup, and so it's not only important to Florida, it has a huge impact on our ability to hold the majority," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), who played a leading role in persuading Rubio to run, said on Wednesday. Josh Holmes, a political consultant who is close to McConnell, said Rubio's decision will allow national Republican groups to shift resources to other competitive races across the country. "It is hard to overstate how important this development is for every Republican-held seat, given that this could take the most expensive state to defend entirely off the map," Holmes said. "This is a massive win for Florida, America and the Grand Old Party." The decision to continue his career in elective politics comes barely three months after Rubio, 45, ended his presidential campaign after an embarrassing loss in his home-state primary, finishing nearly 20 points behind Donald Trump and winning only one county outright — his home base of Miami-Dade. But the handful of candidates seeking to succeed him in the Senate each struggled to break out as Rubio sent a series of signals that he might be willing to seek reelection." (*Washington Post*, 6/22/16)

CRITICS HAVE SUGGESTED RUBIO IS KNOWN FOR HIS VANITY, LIGHTWEIGHT, AND DIMINISHED STATURE

Rubio's Controversial Use Of A Florida Republican Party Credit Card Indicated That Rubio Was Known To Spend $135 On Haircuts During The Period Between 2007 And 2009

Rubio's Controversial Use Of A Florida Republican Party Credit Card Indicated That Rubio Was Known To Spend $135 On Haircuts During The Period Between 2007 And 2009. "In the meantime, as he advocated slashing state spending, Rubio spent like mad on an American Express credit card issued to the Florida Republican Party and paid for by donors. Between 2007 and 2009, he charged about $100,000 on the card — including almost $16,000 in personal expenses such as a $135 haircut and $1,000 in repairs to his family's minivan, according to a Herald investigation. (Rubio has repaid the party for some charges but refuses to assume other expenses he says were legitimate.)" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **NOTE:** *Adjusted for inflation, $135 in 2008 is equal to $197 in 2024.*

VIDEO: In 2013, Rubio Awkwardly Paused His SOTU Response To Take A Sip Of Water

VIDEO: In 2013, Rubio Awkwardly Paused His SOTU Response To Take A Sip Of Water. (YouTube, 2/13/13)



(YouTube, 2/13/13)

In 2016, Rubio Was Mocked And Scrutinized For Wearing Made In China Zip Up Boots That Some Alleged Were Worn To Make Him Appear Taller

In 2016, Rubio Was Mocked And Scrutinized For Wearing Made In China Zip Up Boots That Some Alleged Were Worn To Make Him Appear Taller. "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio is trying to stamp out criticism from other presidential candidates about his slick, zip-up boots by saying he's giving American business a leg up. Rubio's ankle boots became the subject of Internet scrutiny after he was photographed wearing them in New Hampshire on Jan. 3, 2016. Pundits and fashion columnists commented on them ad nauseam. Rubio drew fire from his GOP rivals for being perhaps a bit too chic for the campaign trail. Some speculated they were to make the 5-foot-10 senator appear taller. Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul called the boots "cute" and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's Right to Rise super PAC made a commercial mocking them. While Rubio initially called the focus on his footwear "craziness," he's worked at thinking on his feet. At a Jan. 18 campaign event in Waverly, Iowa, a voter jokingly asked about the boots. Rubio declared his boots, appropriately outfitted with a Cuban heel, are a patriotic choice. "They sold out of those boots online," Rubio said. "They're made in Wisconsin. Florsheim! You know what that means? That means I did more for American business in one week than Barack Obama did in seven years!" He's right that Florsheim's website says some sizes of their $135 Duke boots are out of stock, but they should be available by Feb. 1. A Florsheim spokesman told us sales of

that style have "increased significantly" since Rubio was shown wearing them. As for the part about being made in Wisconsin, well, Rubio probably should have watched his step. Like all of the Glendale, Wis., company's shoes, Rubio's boots aren't made in the United States. The company did recently collaborate with designer George Esquivel to create a luxury shoe line that is made in California, but Florsheim said their products are made in Asia, mostly from China." (Politifact, 1/19/16)



(Twitter, 1/4/16)

CRITICS HAVE SUGGESTED RUBIO IS KNOWN FOR HIS IDEOLOGICAL FLEXIBILITY

Prior To Becoming Florida House Speaker, Rubio Was Relatively Moderate And "Was Hardly The Scorching Conservative Who Would Later Woo Tea Partiers Nationwide"

Prior To Becoming Florida House Speaker, Rubio Was Relatively Moderate And "Was Hardly The Scorching Conservative Who Would Later Woo Tea Partiers Nationwide."
"Back then, he was hardly the scorching conservative who would later woo Tea Partiers nationwide. Before the year's session, he told the Herald he'd focus on supporting early education and community policing. And he wasn't particularly passionate about cutting spending. In his first three years, he supported adding a $4 surcharge to cruise tickets to fund a Marlins stadium and a $1.2 million earmark to build new bike paths in his district. "In his first years, Marco was not this red-meat, Tea Party, let's-abolish-the-government guy you're seeing on the trail now,"

Sen. Steve Geller says. "His politics didn't shift that way until he became the speaker-designate.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

In 2000, Rubio "Campaigned As A Moderate Republican, Preaching Tax Cuts And Early-Childhood Education While Leaving Social Issues Off The Table"

In 2000, Rubio "Campaigned As A Moderate Republican, Preaching Tax Cuts And Early-Childhood Education While Leaving Social Issues Off The Table." "JUST SEVEN YEARS before his designation ceremony, Rubio was knocking on doors in West Miami, the middle-class city of Cuban immigrants where he grew up. Barely out of law school, the 26-year-old was seeking a seat on the city commission. He won easily. Then, less than two years later, a seat in Florida House District 111a safe GOP district came open when a state representative resigned early to run for the state Senate. Rubio jumped in. He campaigned as a moderate Republican, preaching tax cuts and early-childhood education while leaving social issues off the table. In the primary, he faced tough competition from Angel Zayon, a radio and television reporter popular among Cuban exiles. But Rubio won a runoff by 64 votes, and, with the GOP nomination in hand, coasted to victory in the general election." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

"Rubio Was Not Entirely A Rock-Ribbed Conservative. Some Former Colleagues Describe Him As A Centrist Who Sought Out Democrats And Groups That Don't Typically Align With The GOP"

"Rubio Was Not Entirely A Rock-Ribbed Conservative. Some Former Colleagues Describe Him As A Centrist Who Sought Out Democrats And Groups That Don't Typically Align With The GOP." "But Rubio was not entirely a rock-ribbed conservative. Some former colleagues describe him as a centrist who sought out Democrats and groups that don't typically align with the GOP. Early in his tenure, for instance, he set up a meeting with farmworkers to discuss their working conditions." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

In His 2012 Memoir, Rubio Praised Bipartisanship Noting "Most Americans Want To See Republicans And Democrats Working Together For The Good Of The Country. It's Refreshing, Too, To Be Able To Break Free From The Usual Constraints Of Partisanship And Work With Colleagues On The Other Side Of The Aisle"

In His 2012 Memoir, Rubio Praised Bipartisanship Noting "Most Americans Want To See Republicans And Democrats Working Together For The Good Of The Country. It's Refreshing, Too, To Be Able To Break Free From The Usual Constraints Of Partisanship And Work With Colleagues On The Other Side Of The Aisle." "When you debate with colleagues in the Senate, you've met them, have come to know them and, often, have worked with them on other legislation. And you're going to need their cooperation in the future, if only to get unanimous consent for a minor request. Senators are always looking to join with one or more members of the opposite party to sponsor legislation. The rules of the Senate make it impossible for the most legislation to pass without some bipartisan support. But there are other motivations for bipartisan cooperation as well. First, your constituents appreciate it. Most Americans want to see Republicans and Democrats working together for the good of the country. It's refreshing, too, to be able to break free from the usual constraints of partisanship and work with colleagues on

the other side of the aisle. Even on issues where there isn't bipartisan agreement, most senators respect opposing points of view, especially if those views rest on principle and not politics." (An American Son, by Marco Rubio, p.288-289 Jun 19, 2012)

CRITICS MIGHT SUGGEST RUBIO IS A CAREER POLITICIAN WHO LACKS A RESUME OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Rubio Is A Career Politician, Who Has Held Office Or Worked In Government Consulting Roles Continuously Since His First Election In 1998 At The Age Of 26

Rubio Is A Career Politician, Who Has Held Office Or Worked In Government Consulting Roles Continuously Since His First Election In 1998 At The Age Of 26. "After Dole lost, Rubio went to work for Cardenas's law firm, Tew Cardenas. At that time, he met a former Dolphins cheerleader named Jeanette Dousdebes, a gorgeous Colombian-American with long blond hair. They married in 1998. That same year, he decided to run for city commission in West Miami, a hamlet of 5,800 people tucked south of Tamiami Trail and west of Red Road. Though the race drew only a few hundred voters, Rubio's gift for forging connections paid off. Rebeca Sosa, then the commission chair, was tending flowers in her front lawn on a spring day in 1998 when the candidate walked up to introduce himself. "I couldn't believe how young he looked. I said, 'You're too young. Why would you run?'" Sosa says. "But he started talking about everything he learned from his grandfather, and I was just blown away." The next week, Rubio began knocking on every door in West Miami. His opponent, incumbent Tania Rozio, was a community activist. She couldn't believe this 26-year-old kid had the backing of Sosa and a big-league manager like Lorenzo. "I'm not a politician, and I never have been. He was 20-something, and he was already a professional politician," Rozio says. "It was no contest." On election night, Rubio and the other commissioners gathered at West Miami's small city hall, a squat building tucked behind Tropical Supermarket on Calle Ocho. A half-hour after Rubio won by a convincing 744 to 244, the phone rang. "It was Jeb Bush himself, calling to congratulate Marco for winning our little race," recalls Enrique Gonzalez, who also won a seat that year. "He was the anointed golden child, even then.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Rubio's Tenure In The Florida Statehouse Was Marked By A Lack Of Any Real Policy Accomplishments Or Successes

Rubio's Tenure In The Florida Statehouse Was Marked By A Lack Of Any Real Policy Accomplishments Or Successes; "In An American Son, Rubio Concedes He Never Really Had Much Experience Chairing A Committee Until His Next-To-Last Term, When He Was Assigned To Lead A Select Committee On Eminent Domain. He Even Recounts How He Asked One Speaker To Restructure The House Majority Leader Job He Wanted So That It Did Not Involve Whipping Votes—A Task He Knew Would Alienate Members Whose Support He Needed Later To Win The Speakership." "All that time seeking the next leadership post up the ladder left less time for legislating. In An American Son, Rubio concedes he never really had much experience chairing a committee until his next-to-last term, when he was assigned to lead a select committee on eminent domain. He even recounts how he asked one speaker to restructure the House majority leader job he wanted so that it did not involve

whipping votes—a task he knew would alienate members whose support he needed later to win the speakership. Rubio had few major legislative accomplishments in those years, although he did repeatedly and unsuccessfully push for a second multi-million-dollar subsidy for the baseball Marlins. (At one point, Bush emailed Rubio an article about how Floridians did not support subsidies for sports teams.)" (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

Rubio Failed To Achieve More Than One Third Of The Legislative Goals He Set Out To Accomplish As Florida Speaker And During The 2016 Presidential Campaign Only Offered A Stock Answer Of Seven Specific Topic Areas When Asked About U.S. Senate Accomplishments

Rubio Failed To Achieve More Than One Third Of The Legislative Goals He Set Out To Accomplish As Florida Speaker And During The 2016 Presidential Campaign Only Offered A Stock Answer Of Seven Specific Topic Areas When Asked About U.S. Senate Accomplishments. "When asked, Marco Rubio insists that his record is lengthy and substantive. In a race where his rivals have suggested that he is far too inexperienced for the presidency, it's no surprise that the first-term Florida senator gets asked the question -- what, exactly, has he done? -- a lot. It's a question his campaign can't seem to escape, especially since Rubio's rivals have targeted it relentlessly. Sen. Rick Santorum made headlines last week not for endorsing Rubio upon his departure from the race, something he did do, but for being unable to name a single one of Rubio's accomplishments. During Saturday night's debate, the senator was asked to explain his record, which offered Gov. Chris Christie the opportunity to slam it as nonexistent. This morning, at a small, employer-sponsored town hall at BAE Systems in Nashua, an employee asked Rubio to name "the single accomplishment of which you're most proud of and the leadership that you employed achieving it." Rubio answered with no less than seven specific bills, taking military contractors on a meandering review of nearly every elected office he's held in the last two decades. "As part of the debate the other night, there was a big discussion about eminent domain and Governor Bush referred to what we did in Florida to protect against eminent domain abuse," he said. "That was my law. I wrote...we helped craft that law from a committee that I chaired, we passed it into the law of Florida. I was the one that placed it on the ballot." ("Governor Bush always appreciated when State Representative Rubio supported his agenda," a Bush spokesman told MSNBC.) Rubio also touted curriculum reform in Florida -- another thing Bush has touted before -- and said that when he became House Speaker in the state legislature, he'd written a book of 100 legislative goals, more than half of which are now law or policy. PolitiFact found this claim to be just half true way back in 2010. About a third of his 100 legislative goals were enacted or partially enacted into law, far less than the more than half he touted today. As for the Senate achievements he was asked about, Rubio offered up his stock answer: sanctions on Hezbollah and Venezuela, the Veterans Affairs Accountability Act, defunding the Obamacare bailout fund, the Girls Count Act. He concluded by arguing that to really achieve his agenda, he'll need to be president." (MSNBC, 2/8/16)

Rubio's Tenure As Speaker Was Marked By "His Mismanagement And Refusal To Compromise" Which Handicapped His Ability To Secure Accomplishments

Rubio's Tenure As Speaker Was Marked By "His Mismanagement And Refusal To Compromise" Which Handicapped His Ability To Secure Accomplishments. "Rage flashes through Marco Rubio's hazel eyes. His gavel echoes like a gunshot through the chamber. Legislators freeze. Rep. Franklin Sands, a Democrat from Weston, stops midstride on his way back to his desk. "The clerk will stop reading until Representative Sands takes his seat," Rubio intones icily. Through months of partisan bickering, the speaker had never cracked. But that day, his caffeinated drive melted into anger and frustration. "He just exploded," recalls Dan Gelber, then the House minority leader and now a candidate for state attorney general. "He was angry, very angry, and it was worse because he knew he'd lost his cool." The cause of Rubio's outburst on April 18, 2008, was a procedural trick by Democrats, who forced Republicans to read every word of every bill aloud before a vote. The speaker, in turn, locked the chamber doors and ordered security guards to force every representative into his or her seat. He forbade bathroom breaks and turned off the chamber's Internet access. There was just a month left in Rubio's last legislative session, and his anger was the culmination of two years that began with great promise but devolved — thanks in part to his mismanagement and refusal to compromise — into a tenure critics said fell short of expectations. "I'm fond of Marco personally," Gelber says. "But throughout his term, he told the public what they wanted to hear instead of trying to actually address the complex challenges we faced as a state.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Rubio's Ambition "Proved Greater Than His Ability To Find Consensus"

Rubio's Ambition "Proved Greater Than His Ability To Find Consensus." "As Rubio's final session began in March 2008, his top priorities again looked custom-built to win over the anti-tax zealots who would later form the Tea Party's base. He advocated a flat property tax cap and a constitutional amendment imposing a strict spending cap. His ambition, though, again proved greater than his ability to find consensus. Both his tax plan and spending cap made it out of committee, but as the House was forced to make the deepest budget cuts in state history, the Senate refused to even take up the plans." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Rubio's Speakership Indicated "A Tendency To Delegate Many Of The Toughest Parts Of Politics"

Rubio's Speakership Indicated "A Tendency To Delegate Many Of The Toughest Parts Of Politics." "Rubio's relationship with Rivera was emblematic of the new speaker's general style: a tendency to delegate many of the toughest parts of politics. Bob Levy, a longtime lobbyist, says he rarely visited Rubio when he wanted something for his clients. It was Rivera who took the meetings. "When you talked to David, you knew you were talking to Marco," Levy told me. "Rivera got things done," Gelber says, "sort of like a fighter pilot might plow the horizon for the guys behind himwith a similar amount of damage, I might add." "There were times when David did things that Marco wouldn't necessarily sanction, but he considered that David's choiceas long as they didn't involve Marco directly," Jill Chamberlin, Rubio's former press secretary, told me." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Rubio Has A Well-Known "Reluctance To Be A Top-Down Manager"

Rubio Has A Well-Known "Reluctance To Be A Top-Down Manager." "Indeed, probably the biggest consensus to emerge from my conversations had to do with Rubio's reluctance to be a top-down manager. "There are organizations where it's all about one strong dynamic player, and I saw him as more of the team-builder, someone who empowered other people," says Baxley. Gelber, the Democrat, puts it this way: "Marco, unlike Jeb, is not afraid of a collaborative process. He understands the notion of achieving what you can." In this respect, a Rubio presidency might prove to be a close managerial cousin of the administration of George W. Bush, who was famously comfortable delegating. Where opinion splits is on whether Rubio's tendency toward delegation is a virtue or a problem. While Byrd (a supporter) praises Rubio as "a good listener" who "makes everybody have a part in what's going to happen," Fasano (a Jeb backer) looks at the same instincts and says, "When confronted with an issue, with a problem, he pretty much would throw it in the laps of his staff and want to take the road of noncontroversy. To me, that's not a leader.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

In 2016, Rubio-Backer Rick "Santorum Struggled To Name One Accomplishment Rubio Has Had In The Senate" And Failed To Push Back Against Arguments From MSNBC's Morning Joe Hosts That He Had Not Accomplished Anything

In 2016, Rubio-Backer Rick "Santorum Struggled To Name One Accomplishment Rubio Has Had In The Senate" And Failed To Push Back Against Arguments From MSNBC's Morning Joe Hosts That He Had Not Accomplished Anything. "Rick Santorum had one job to do in his appearance on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" on Thursday. He failed. The former Pennsylvania senator, who dropped his presidential bid Wednesday, told co-hosts Joe Scarborough and Mika Brzezinski he is supporting Marco Rubio's presidential campaign because the Florida senator is someone "who can work together with people." But Santorum struggled to name one accomplishment Rubio has had in the Senate. "He's been in the Senate for four years," Scarborough noted. "Can you name his top accomplishment in the Senate — actually working in the Senate doing something that tilted your decision to Marco Rubio?" "If you look at being in the minority in the United States Senate in a year when nothing got — four years where nothing got done, I guess it's hard to say there are accomplishments," Santorum said. "I mean, tell me what happened during that four years that was an accomplishment for anybody? It was complete gridlock." Scarborough shot back that Republicans have been in the majority for the past two years and asked what Rubio has accomplished there since being part of the majority. "Joe, look, the Republicans have been in the majority for one year and one month, of which, as you know, he was running for president primarily," Santorum said. "The first four years he was in the minority, and nothing got done. And by the way, what happened this year under the Republicans?" Scarborough insisted he wasn't defending Congress or being difficult in his questioning. "I'm just asking you to name one accomplishment that Marco Rubio —" Scarborough said as Santorum tried to interrupt. "But list one accomplishment. Just one. Just one that Marco achieved. Maybe a bill that he wrote. Maybe a moment in a committee." Brzezinski then jumped in to make it easier on Santorum, offering a fill-in-the-blank question. "Jeb Bush ran Florida. Donald Trump built a company," she began. "Marco Rubio... — finish the sentence." "OK, Marco Rubio was, No. 1, the speaker of the Florida House, which is not something that's a minor deal," Santorum answered. "I mean, he was elected by his colleagues to

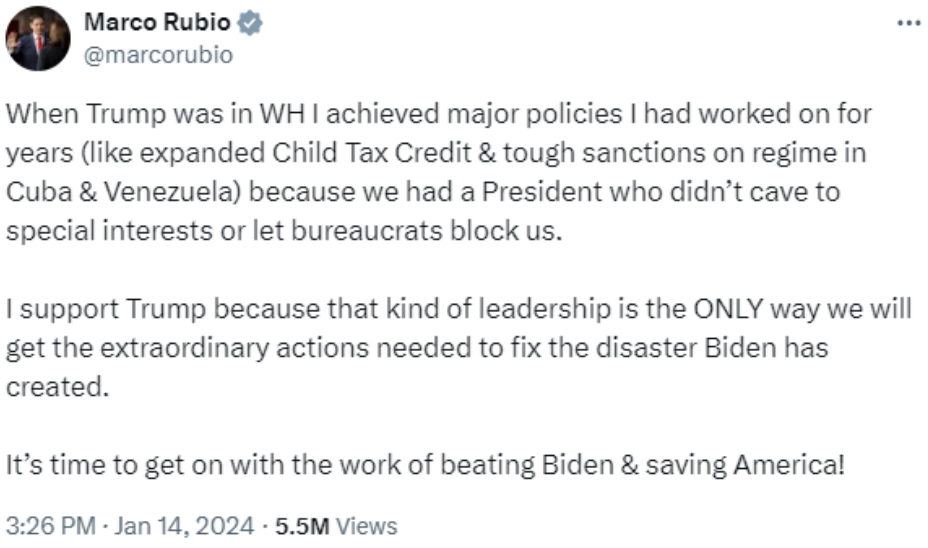
be the speaker of the House. No. 2, yeah, he spent four years in the United States Senate being frustrated like everybody else that nothing got done, and then you can't point to him and say well nothing got done and therefore he has no accomplishments.'" (*Politico*, 2/4/16)

Rubio Has Been Criticized For Claiming Credit On Killing An Obamacare Provision Due To Other Senate Negotiators Actually Achieving The Feat

Rubio Has Been Criticized For Claiming Credit On Killing An Obamacare Provision Due To Other Senate Negotiators Actually Achieving The Feat. "Asked later why Santorum couldn't name a legislative accomplishment, Rubio then pointed to a veterans affairs measure, sanctions on Hezbollah, killing an Obamacare provision and a measure to prevent human trafficking. The veterans measure was slipped into a larger bill that passed Congress in 2014; the Hezbollah sanctions bill and human trafficking measure each passed with no opposition in the Senate. And his role in pushing to kill the Obamacare provision, which let the government provide a key backstop for insurance companies, has been the subject of sharp dispute. On the campaign trail, Rubio takes credit for legislation that was included in a 2015 spending bill gutting the so-called risk corridors provision. While Rubio was on the forefront calling for changes to the provision in the past, it was ultimately other GOP negotiators who slipped the measure into the spending bill – not Rubio himself. Asked by CNN Thursday how he could take credit for that, Rubio said, "I led the effort to put that in. I was the first one to bring it up. I was the one who pushed forward for two and a half years. … Did I type it on my computer? No. But did I actually get it done? Absolutely.'" (CNN, 2/4/16)

In 2024, Rubio Now Credits Trump's Tenure With Allowing Him To Actually Have Major Policy Achievements, As Rubio Noted In His 2024 Endorsement Of Trump

In 2024, Rubio Now Credits Trump's Tenure With Allowing Him To Actually Have Major Policy Achievements, As Rubio Noted In His 2024 Endorsement Of Trump. (Twitter, 1/14/24)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
When Trump was in WH I achieved major policies I had worked on for years (like expanded Child Tax Credit & tough sanctions on regime in Cuba & Venezuela) because we had a President who didn't cave to special interests or let bureaucrats block us.
I support Trump because that kind of leadership is the ONLY way we will get the extraordinary actions needed to fix the disaster Biden has created.
It's time to get on with the work of beating Biden & saving America!
3:26 PM · Jan 14, 2024 · 5.5M Views

(Twitter, 1/14/24)

CRITICS COULD SUGGEST THAT RUBIO HAS ONE OF THE WORST MISSED VOTING RECORDS

In 2022, Politifact Concluded That Claiming Rubio Had "One Of The Worst Attendance Records In The Senate" Was A "Mostly True" Statement – With Rubio Having Missed More Than 9 Percent Of Roll Call Votes Throughout His Career

In 2022, Politifact Concluded That Claiming Rubio Had "One Of The Worst Attendance Records In The Senate" Was A "Mostly True" Statement – With Rubio Having Missed More Than 9 Percent Of Roll Call Votes Throughout His Career. "Since taking office in 2011, Rubio has missed 346, or 9.2%, of 3,744 roll call votes, according to GovTrack, a nonpartisan website that collects congressional data. On average, members of the Senate miss around 2.3% of votes during their tenure. Most of Rubio's career absences occurred during his bid for the Republican presidential nomination in 2016. From April 2015 through March 2016, Rubio missed 129 votes. That's not unusual for a presidential candidate. For example, former President Barack Obama missed 314, or about 24%, of 1,300 roll call votes in his three-year Senate career. Independent Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Republican Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, who both vied for the White House, have worse attendance than Rubio. Sanders has missed more than 14% of votes since 2007; Cruz missed 9.4% since he joined the Senate in 2013. Still, Rubio's attendance record did not immediately improve after his presidential campaign. According to ProPublica, in the 115th Congress, which ran from January 2017 to 2018, Rubio was the eighth most absent member in the Senate, out of 99 senators. (There was one vacancy.) In 2020, Rubio ranked 12th most absent among senators who have served more than 10 years. When looking at the current 117th Congress, however, Rubio's attendance has improved. The 117th Congress began in 2021 and goes through January 2023. So far, he's missed 41 votes, making him the 27th most absent member of the Senate. He cited "travel difficulties" for three absences, per ProPublica. It's also worth noting that none of the votes Rubio missed in the 117th Congress had a specific impact on Florida. The most absent member of the Senate recently is Republican Sen. Mike Rounds of South Dakota. So far, Rounds missed more than 25% of votes. Rubio's campaign did not answer specific questions about his record. Instead, a spokesperson pointed to a list of his achievements in the Senate, including co-authoring the Paycheck Protection Program, or PPP. Demings said Rubio has "one of the worst attendance records in the Senate. " Looking at the percentage of roll call votes Rubio missed throughout his decade as a senator, the statement is accurate. Overall, Rubio missed more than 9% of votes since 2011 — well above the average of 2.3% among members of the Senate. One of the reasons for this is his unsuccessful run for the presidency in 2016. Rubio's attendance record in the 117th Congress is a bit better. So far, he has missed 41 votes, making him the 27th most absent member of the Senate. We rate Demings' claim Mostly True." (Politifact, 7/16/22)

Earlier In 2015, Rubio Was Known To Have Had The Worst Record For Missed Votes In The Senate

Earlier In 2015, Rubio Was Known To Have Had The Worst Record For Missed Votes In The Senate. "If there were a perfect attendance award for Congress, Sen. Susan Collins would get it. Since taking office in 1997, the Maine Republican hasn't missed a vote in 5,788

opportunities. But some of her colleagues have missed quite a few over the years. Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) and Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) have been absent from the most votes in their respective chambers, according to a new analysis by Vocativ in partnership with GovTrack.us. Of 1,198 total votes, Rubio has missed 99, or 8.3 percent, since taking office in January 2011. "He is one of the only senators with young children who has not moved his family to D.C., and tries to spend as much time in Florida with them as possible," Rubio spokesman Alex Conant told POLITICO. "In addition to his parental responsibilities, in recent years he's also had to return to Florida and miss votes due to his mother's health and civic responsibilities like jury duty." On Rubio's voting record over the last few years, Conant said there will be no doubt where the Florida senator stands as he travels around the country talking to potential voters for a possible presidential run. "Senator Rubio has not made a final decision about 2016, but he's seriously considering running for president and taking the necessary steps to prepare a competitive campaign," he said. Conyers, who is currently the longest-serving member in either chamber, has missed 16.3 percent of 27,195 votes since January 1965. Republicans make up nine of the 10 spots on Vocativ's Senate list, with Hawaii Democrat Brian Schatz missing the third-most votes after his appointment to the seat following the death of Sen. Daniel Inouye in December 2012. He was subsequently reelected last November. Other names on top 10 list include Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), John Boozman (R-Ark.), Ted Cruz (R-Texas), David Vitter (R-La.), Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) and Roy Blunt (R-Mo.)." (*Politico*, 2/18/15)

RUBIO IS KNOWN TO HAVE POORLY MANAGED HIS SENATE OFFICE

In 2018, Rubio Fired His Chief Of Staff Clint Reed "After Determining He Violated Office Policies Regarding Proper Relations Between A Supervisor And Subordinates"

In 2018, Rubio Fired His Chief Of Staff Clint Reed "After Determining He Violated Office Policies Regarding Proper Relations Between A Supervisor And Subordinates." "Sen. Marco Rubio has fired his chief of staff after determining he violated office policies regarding proper relations between a supervisor and subordinates. Rubio said in a statement that an investigation concluded his chief of staff Clint Reed engaged in behavior that "in my judgement amounted to threats to withhold employment benefits." Rubio announced the decision to fire Reed just before midnight on Saturday. The Florida Republican said he became aware "for the first time" on Friday "of allegations of improper conduct by my Chief of Staff while under the employment of my office." Rubio said the allegations were reported directly to him and that he then immediately began an investigation with his general counsel. "By early this afternoon, I had sufficient evidence to conclude that while employed by this office, my Chief of Staff had violated office policies regarding proper relations between a supervisor and their subordinates," Rubio said. Rubio said he traveled from Florida to Washington on Saturday night to terminate Reed's employment effective immediately. His office has also "taken steps to ensure that those impacted by this conduct have access to any services they may require now or in the future," he said." (*Politico*, 1/28/18)

RUBIO'S PERSONAL ISSUES AND ADDITIONAL FOIBLES

SEVERAL POTENTIAL CONTROVERSIES STEM FROM RUBIO'S FAMILY'S IMMIGRATION THE U.S.

Rubio Is Known To Have Engaged In The Embellishment Of His Family's Emigration From Cuba

In 2011, An Analysis Of Documents Indicated That Rubio Had Been Embellishing His Family's Emigration Story From Cuba; Rather Than Being The "Son Of Exiles" From Castro's Cuba, Rubio Was A Son Of More Conventional Immigrants Seeking A Better Life Who Arrived Years Before Castro's Rise. "During his rise to political prominence, Sen. Marco Rubio frequently repeated a compelling version of his family's history that had special resonance in South Florida. He was the "son of exiles," he told audiences, Cuban Americans forced off their beloved island after "a thug," Fidel Castro, took power. But a review of documents — including naturalization papers and other official records — reveals that the Florida Republican's account embellishes the facts. The documents show that Rubio's parents came to the United States and were admitted for permanent residence more than two-and-a-half years before Castro's forces overthrew the Cuban government and took power on New Year's Day 1959. The supposed flight of Rubio's parents has been at the core of the young senator's political identity, both before and after his stunning tea-party-propelled victory in last year's Senate election. Rubio — now considered a prospective 2012 Republican vice presidential candidate and a possible future presidential contender — mentions his parents in the second sentence of the official biography on his Senate Web site. It says that Mario and Oriales Rubio "came to America following Fidel Castro's takeover." And the 40-year-old senator with the boyish smile and prom-king good looks has drawn on the power of that claim to entrance audiences captivated by the rhetorical skills of one of the more dynamic stump speakers in modern American politics. The real story of his parents' migration appears to be a more conventional immigrant narrative, a couple who came to the United States seeking a better life. In the year they arrived in Florida, the future Marxist dictator was in Mexico plotting a quixotic return to Cuba. Rubio's office confirmed Thursday that his parents arrived in the United States in 1956 but noted that "while they were prepared to live here permanently, they always held out the hope and the option of returning to Cuba if things improved." They returned to Cuba several times after Castro came to power to "assess the situation with the hope of eventually moving back," the office said in a statement." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **Rubio Blamed The Inconsistencies On Family Lore; He Had Been Prominently Identifying As A Member Of The Cuban Exile Community For Several Years Including In A 2006 Speech That Marked His Political Ascent.** "In a brief interview Thursday, Rubio said his accounts have been based on family lore. "I'm going off the oral history of my family," he said. "All of these documents and passports are not things that I carried around with me." He said of his parents: "They were from Cuba. They wanted to live in Cuba again. They tried to live in Cuba again, and the reality of what it was made that impossible." In 2006, on the eve of his rise to speaker of the Florida House, Rubio told an audience that "in January of 1959, a thug named Fidel Castro took

power in Cuba and countless Cubans were forced to flee and come here, many — most — here to America. When they arrived, they were welcomed by the most compassionate people on all the Earth." Wearing a red flower in his lapel, his voice sometimes emotional, he praised those who fled, calling them "a great generation." But he also assured them: "Today your children and grandchildren are the secretary of commerce of the United States and multiple members of Congress, they are the CEO of Fortune 500 companies and successful entrepreneurs, they are Grammy-winning artists and they are renowned journalists, they are a United States senator and soon, even speaker of the Florida House." The speech drew heavy coverage in Florida, as it was a momentous event. Rubio was the first Cuban American to become speaker of the Florida House. In Florida, being connected to the post-revolution exile community gives a politician cachet that could never be achieved by someone identified with the pre-Castro exodus, a group sometimes viewed with suspicion." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **Additionally, In 2009, Rubio Claimed His Parents Had Immigrated To America In 1959 – In Line With Castro's Takeover.** "Rubio emerged as a national political figure in 2009 when he took on Charlie Crist, a once-popular Republican Florida governor, in a heated Senate race. Crist was forced to run as an independent because of Rubio's surge. In a television interview on Fox Business, Rubio spelled out the central message of his campaign, saying: "I believe limited government has made America the most prosperous people in the history of the world." Then he pivoted to the theme that had served him so well. "And I think that the direction we're going in Washington, D.C., would make us more like the rest of the world, and not like the exceptional nation that my parents found when they came here from Cuba in 1959, and the nation they worked in so hard so that I could inherit." Research editor Alice Crites contributed to this report." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)
    - **VIDEO: In 2009, Rubio Speaks In The Florida House And Claims That He Is A Descendant Of Cuban Exiles Noting "No Matter What Titles I May Achieve In My Life, I Will Always Be The Son Of Exiles."** (YouTube, 3/27/09)



(YouTube, 3/27/09)

Rubio's Recounting Of His Family's Background Has Shifted Overtime; Documents Indicate A More Conventional Immigration Story Due To Economic And Not Political Reasons. "When Rubio's parents left the island, Cuban migration to the United States was a trickle compared with what it would become in the years after Castro's victory. "The vast majority of people who emigrated in the '50s went for economic reasons, not for political reasons," said Maria Cristina Garcia, an expert on Cuban migration at Cornell University. Multiple documents signed by Rubio's parents, including their petitions for naturalization, show that Mario and Oriales Rubio arrived in the United States on May 27, 1956, with their son Mario, 6. Maternal grandfather Pedro Victor Garcia also came to the United States around the same time. Marco Rubio has said that his father left Cuba after enduring hardships, including the loss of his mother when he was young. Rubio has described the death in moving terms, although details have changed in his accounts. In February 2010, during Rubio's electric speech to the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington, he said that his grandmother died when his father was 6 and that "the day after her funeral, he went to work selling coffee in the streets of Havana." Seven months later, when his father died in the midst of Rubio's Senate campaign, Rubio wrote in an open letter that his father lost his mother when he was "just days shy of his ninth birthday." The Social Security numbers for Rubio's father and grandfather suggest that Mario Rubio received his Social Security number in Florida in 1956 and that Garcia received his in New York in 1956-57. What's known of their lives in the United States comes primarily from Marco Rubio's speeches and writings. He talks and writes lovingly of his father, telling of the family's regular Sunday trips to the International House of Pancakes and how his

father managed equipment for his Pop Warner football team. His father was a bartender and school crossing guard; his mother worked as a hotel maid and stocking shelves at Kmart. The family was itinerant, according to the senator, living at various times in New York and Los Angeles and spending several years in Las Vegas. But it appears that most of their time was spent in the Miami area, where a 1958 city directory shows a Mario Rubio employed at the luxurious Roney Plaza Hotel. In one 2010 interview with Fox News's Sean Hannity, Marco Rubio seemed uncertain about the date of his parents' arrival, saying, "My parents and grandparents came here from Cuba in '58, '59." None of the public statements reviewed by The Washington Post gave 1956 as their arrival date. The senator's office tried to clarify the facts in its statement Thursday. After coming to the United States in 1956, Rubio's parents visited Cuba after Castro's takeover. In 1961, Oriales Rubio took her two children to Cuba "with the intention of remaining permanently." Mario remained in Florida "wrapping up the family's matters." But within weeks of arriving, "it because clear that Cuba was headed full speed toward Communism and they decided to return to the U.S," the statement said. Rubio's staff allowed The Post to examine copies of his parents' passports. They showed that between the couple's admission for permanent U.S. residence and Castro's victory on Jan. 1, 1959, his father spent five days in Cuba and his mother spent no more than two months and three days there. The passports show that Rubio's mother made at least four short trips to the island after Castro's victory, including a month-long stay in February and March 1961. Marco Rubio was born 10 years later in Miami. The next year, his older brother, Mario, petitioned for naturalization. The document, signed by their father, says Mario Rubio was "lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on May 27, 1956." The entry date coincides with a notarized "Declaration of Domicile" — filed in Dade County Circuit Court by their father in 1974 . It states that "I . . . am and have been a bona fide resident of the state of Florida since the 27th day of May, 1956.'" (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

Following Publication Of The *Washington Post* Report, Rubio Angrily Attacked The Reporting As "An Outrageous Allegation That Is Not Only Incorrect, But An Insult To The Sacrifices My Parents Made To Provide A Better Life For Their Children"; However, Rubio Conceded That The Report Did Capture The Facts About His Family's Immigration Timeline And Circumstances. "The Washington Post on Friday accused me of seeking political advantage by embellishing the story of how my parents arrived in the United States. That is an outrageous allegation that is not only incorrect, but an insult to the sacrifices my parents made to provide a better life for their children. They claim I did this because "being connected to the post-revolution exile community gives a politician cachet that could never be achieved by someone identified with the pre-Castro exodus, a group sometimes viewed with suspicion." If The Washington Post wants to criticize me for getting a few dates wrong, I accept that. But to call into question the central and defining event of my parents' young lives – the fact that a brutal communist dictator took control of their homeland and they were never able to return – is something I will not tolerate. My understanding of my parents' journey has always been based on what they told me about events that took place more than 50 years ago — more than a decade before I was born. What they described was not a timeline, or specific dates. They talked about their desire to find a better life, and the pain of being separated from the nation of their birth. What they described was the struggle they faced growing up, and their obsession with giving

their children the chance to do the things they never could. But the Post story misses the point completely. The real essence of my family's story is not about the date my parents first entered the United States. Or whether they traveled back and forth between the two nations. Or even the date they left Fidel Castro's Cuba forever and permanently settled here. The essence of my family story is why they came to America in the first place; and why they had to stay. I now know that they entered the U.S. legally on an immigration visa in May of 1956. Not, as some have said before, as part of some special privilege reserved only for Cubans. They came because they wanted to achieve things they could not achieve in their native land. And they stayed because, after January 1959, the Cuba they knew disappeared. They wanted to go back — and in fact they did. Like many Cubans, they initially held out hope that Castro's revolution would bring about positive change. So after 1959, they traveled back several times — to assess the prospect of returning home. In February 1961, my mother took my older siblings to Cuba with the intention of moving back. My father was wrapping up family matters in Miami and was set to join them. But after just a few weeks, it became clear that the change happening in Cuba was not for the better. It was communism. So in late March 1961, just weeks before the Bay of Pigs invasion, my mother and siblings left Cuba and my family settled permanently in the United States. Soon after, Castro officially declared Cuba a Marxist state. My family has never been able to return. I am the son of immigrants and exiles, raised by people who know all too well that you can lose your country. By people who know firsthand that America is a very special place. My father spent the last 50 years of his life separated from the nation of his birth. Separated from his two brothers, who died in Cuba in the 1980s. Unable to show us where he played baseball as a boy. Where he met my mother. Unable to visit his parents' grave. My mother has spent the last 50 years separated from her native land as well. Unable to take us to her family's farm, to her schools or to the notary office where she married my father. A few years ago, using Google Earth, I attempted to take my parents back to Cuba. We found the rooftop of the house where my father was born. What I wouldn't give to visit these places where my story really began, before I was born. One day, when Cuba is free, I will. But I wish I could have done it with my parents. The Post story misses the entire point about my family and why their story is relevant. People didn't vote for me because they thought my parents came in 1961, or 1956, or any other year. Among others things, they voted for me because, as the son of immigrants, I know how special America really is. As the son of exiles, I know how much it hurts to lose your country. Ultimately what The Post writes is not that important to me. I am the son of exiles. I inherited two generations of unfulfilled dreams. This is a story that needs no embellishing." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *Politico*, 10/21/11)

Rubio Was Born To Non-U.S. Citizen (Birthright Citizenship)

At The Time Of Rubio's 1971 Birth In Miami, Neither Of His Parents Were U.S. Citizens; Rubio's Parents Only Petitioned For Naturalization In 1975, Fifteen Years After Acquiring Permanent Residency

At The Time Of Rubio's 1971 Birth In Miami, Neither Of His Parents Were U.S. Citizens; Rubio's Parents Only Petitioned For Naturalization In 1975, Fifteen Years After Acquiring Permanent Residency. "Marco Rubio was born 10 years later in Miami. The next year, his older brother, Mario, petitioned for naturalization. The document, signed by their father, says Mario

Rubio was "lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on May 27, 1956." The entry date coincides with a notarized "Declaration of Domicile" — filed in Dade County Circuit Court by their father in 1974 . It states that "I . . . am and have been a bona fide resident of the state of Florida since the 27th day of May, 1956." On Sept. 9, 1975, Marco Rubio's parents also petitioned for naturalization. Their petitions list the same date of admission to the United States as the petition of Rubio's brother. It is unclear why Rubio's parents waited 15 years to seek naturalization. The parents' naturalization papers have begun to circulate on the Internet as part of a "birther" controversy related to Rubio's eligibility for future presidential tickets. The controversy, which was reported this week in the St. Petersburg Times, has been compared to the frenzy surrounding President Obama's birthplace, but in reality it bears a closer resemblance to the fight over Sen. John McCain's eligibility in the 2008 election. Both the McCain squabble and the low-simmer Rubio case center on the definition of who is a "natural-born citizen." In the last presidential cycle, some suggested that McCain (R-Ariz.) was ineligible because he was born in the Panama Canal Zone. A similar claim has been made in blogs and other forums because Rubio's parents were not citizens when he was born in Florida in 1971. But legal scholars on both sides of the McCain debate told The Post that Rubio's citizenship does not appear to be an issue." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

Rubio's Family Is Known To Have Made Several Return Trips To Cuba After Castro Rose To Power

Rubio's Family Is Known To Have Made Several Return Trips To Cuba After Castro Rose To Power. "The supposed flight of Rubio's parents has been at the core of the young senator's political identity, both before and after his stunning tea-party-propelled victory in last year's Senate election. Rubio — now considered a prospective 2012 Republican vice presidential candidate and a possible future presidential contender — mentions his parents in the second sentence of the official biography on his Senate Web site. It says that Mario and Oriales Rubio "came to America following Fidel Castro's takeover." And the 40-year-old senator with the boyish smile and prom-king good looks has drawn on the power of that claim to entrance audiences captivated by the rhetorical skills of one of the more dynamic stump speakers in modern American politics. The real story of his parents' migration appears to be a more conventional immigrant narrative, a couple who came to the United States seeking a better life. In the year they arrived in Florida, the future Marxist dictator was in Mexico plotting a quixotic return to Cuba. Rubio's office confirmed Thursday that his parents arrived in the United States in 1956 but noted that "while they were prepared to live here permanently, they always held out the hope and the option of returning to Cuba if things improved." They returned to Cuba several times after Castro came to power to "assess the situation with the hope of eventually moving back," the office said in a statement." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **"In 1961, Oriales Rubio Took Her Two Children To Cuba "With The Intention Of Remaining Permanently." Mario Remained In Florida "Wrapping Up The Family's Matters." But Within Weeks Of Arriving, "It Because Clear That Cuba Was Headed Full Speed Toward Communism And They Decided To Return To The U.S," The Statement Said."** "In one 2010 interview with Fox News's Sean Hannity, Marco Rubio seemed uncertain about the date of his parents' arrival, saying, "My parents

and grandparents came here from Cuba in '58, '59." None of the public statements reviewed by The Washington Post gave 1956 as their arrival date. The senator's office tried to clarify the facts in its statement Thursday. After coming to the United States in 1956, Rubio's parents visited Cuba after Castro's takeover. In 1961, Oriales Rubio took her two children to Cuba "with the intention of remaining permanently." Mario remained in Florida "wrapping up the family's matters." But within weeks of arriving, "it because clear that Cuba was headed full speed toward Communism and they decided to return to the U.S," the statement said. Rubio's staff allowed The Post to examine copies of his parents' passports." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **Rubio's Parents' Passports "Showed That Between The Couple's Admission For Permanent U.S. Residence And Castro's Victory On Jan. 1, 1959, His Father Spent Five Days In Cuba And His Mother Spent No More Than Two Months And Three Days There. The Passports Show That Rubio's Mother Made At Least Four Short Trips To The Island After Castro's Victory, Including A Month-Long Stay In February And March 1961."** "Rubio's staff allowed The Post to examine copies of his parents' passports. They showed that between the couple's admission for permanent U.S. residence and Castro's victory on Jan. 1, 1959, his father spent five days in Cuba and his mother spent no more than two months and three days there. The passports show that Rubio's mother made at least four short trips to the island after Castro's victory, including a month-long stay in February and March 1961. Marco Rubio was born 10 years later in Miami. The next year, his older brother, Mario, petitioned for naturalization. The document, signed by their father, says Mario Rubio was "lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on May 27, 1956." The entry date coincides with a notarized "Declaration of Domicile" — filed in Dade County Circuit Court by their father in 1974 . It states that "I . . . am and have been a bona fide resident of the state of Florida since the 27th day of May, 1956.'" (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

Rubio's Grandfather's Attempted To Immigrate Illegally

In 1962, Rubio's Grandfather, Fleeing Castro's Cuba After Having Left The United States In 1959, Attempted To Enter The United States Without Proper Credentials And Was Ordered To Be Deported Before Being Granted Status As A Parolee. "Marco Rubio's grandfather was a man without a country. Pedro Victor Garcia had left behind a home and a job with the government in communist Cuba, intent on never returning. But after his flight, Pan Am 2422 from Havana, touched down in Miami on Aug. 31, 1962, immigration officials stopped him. It had been almost three years since he had last set foot in the United States, and he no longer had the proper credentials to enter. They told him he could stay for the time being, but if he wanted to avoid deportation, he would have to plead his case. "I always thought of being here in the United States as a resident, living permanently here," the slight 62-year-old grandfather, speaking through an interpreter, said at a hearing five weeks later. He said that he had previously returned to Cuba because he did not want to be a burden on his family in the United States, but that the Cuban government had grown too oppressive and he feared what might happen if he stayed. The immigration officer was unmoved. He did not see an exiled family man — just someone who had no visa, worked for the Castro government and could pose a security risk. "It is ordered that the applicant be excluded and deported from the United States," he said matter-of-

factly, according to an audio recording of the proceedings stored by the National Archives. He stopped to ask if Mr. Garcia understood. "Yes, I do," Mr. Garcia said plaintively. That easily could have been the end of his American story. But someone in the immigration office on Biscayne Boulevard that day — the paperwork does not make clear exactly who or why — had a change of heart. Mr. Garcia was granted status as a parolee, a gray area of the law that meant he would not get a green card but could remain in the United States." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

- **AUDIO: In 1962, During An Immigration Hearing, Rubio's Grandfather Was Ordered To Be Deported.** (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)
    - **The U.S. Government Argued Rubio's Grandfather Was Not A Refugee But An Immigrant Who Gave Up His Status And Therefore In Violation Of Immigration Laws.** "Yet Pedro Victor still believes. "I wish to say that I want to be a resident because by this status I will be able to work, get a job and get some money from here and there, and not be depending on my daughters." A court official halts the proceedings to place a new disc on the Voicewriter. Less than a minute into the new recording, Milich gives Pedro Victor cause for optimism. "I take official notice the U.S. consulates in Cuba were closed in January 1961, and from that time on no person in Cuba could procure a visa to come to this country." But then Milich pivots. It turns out he agrees with the prosecutor that Pedro Victor relinquished his legal resident status by remaining outside the country for more than a year. But that isn't all. Milich says that when Pedro Victor entered the country as a "returning resident" in late 1959, he really wasn't what he said he was. Pedro Víctor had moved to Havana months earlier and could no longer be considered a resident of the United States. "Actually at that time he was on a leave of absence/paid vacation from his employment," Milich says. Milich also draws an important distinction about Pedro Victor's identity. Even though many Cubans were entering the country as refugees, the grandfather standing before him cannot be given that designation, Milich says. Because Pedro Victor is trying to come into the country as a returning resident, "he must be considered an immigrant," Milich says. In the eyes of the United States government, he is not a political exile. He is a man who has broken immigration laws. Without a refugee status, Pedro Victor has no chance. He is in an immigration catch-22 — unable to get an immigrant visa because the U.S. consulate in Havana is closed and unable to enter the United States legally because he doesn't have a visa. "The applicant is subject to exclusion . . . as an immigrant not in possession of a valid, unexpired immigrant visa." At that point, Pedro Victor is officially an undocumented immigrant, a man standing on American soil without permission to be there. Then comes the crushing blow. Milich orders "that the applicant be excluded and deported from the United States." How could a Cuban be deported under those conditions in that era? A little more than a year and a half after the Bay of Pigs invasion? After Castro's declaration that he was a Marxist- Leninist? It turns out that in those days a small number of Cubans were still being sent back to the island for violating visa requirements." (*The Washington Post*, 6/17/12)

- **Rubio's Grandfather Had Returned To Cuba From The U.S. To Live Independently And Was Employed As A Castro Government Official Before Fleeing.** "Pedro Victor emigrated to the United States in 1956, the same year as his daughter and son-in-law, Oriales and Mario Rubio. The Rubios touched down at Miami International Airport in a National Airlines jet six months before Castro set sail for Cuba in a leaky yacht called the Granma. Pedro Victor, Oriales's father, followed a few months later. The years between Pedro Victor's arrival on U.S. soil and Castro's victory were not easy on him or his pride. He went to New York, where he found little more than odd jobs, then made his way to Florida where steady work also eluded him. He repaired shoes at his home and sometimes picked up a few extra dollars as a money collector in a parking lot. He was 60 years old and dependent on his daughters. But in Cuba, Pedro Victor thought, he could be his own man. So two years and two months after being admitted to the United States as a legal immigrant, Pedro Víctor reacheda difficult conclusion. "I had to go back to Cuba to work there because I did not want to be supported by my daughters, my sons- in-law," he later explained. On January 15, 1959, two weeks after Batista abdicated, Pedro Victor flew back to the island of his birth. For the first three months he operated a small shoe store he owned, but in March he started selling off all his stock and materials. One of his daughters' husbands offered a better option: he could get Pedro Victor a real job, a job with a salary, vacation time, reliability. Pedro Victor decided to take it. His new employer was the Castro government. The job was with Cuba's Treasury ministry. Pedro Victor later described what sounds like a low-level bureaucratic or blue-collar position. He would say that he was tasked with recording payments owed to the Treasury by bus and truck drivers. Castro's government was beginning to insinuate itself into all aspects of daily life. In 1960, it unveiled the Urban Reform Law, under which the government seized rental properties throughout the country. The law was part of a series of sweeping moves designed to impose a socialist economic structure on the nation. Rents for the tenants of apartments were slashed in half, and the tenants were promised that they would become owners of the apartments in five to twenty years." (*The Washington Post*, 6/17/12)

"Though Mr. Garcia Had Been Issued A Green Card When He Arrived In Miami Six Years Earlier, He Had Forfeited His Legal Status When He Returned To Cuba To Look For Work In 1959, Shortly After The Revolution, And Remained There. He Eventually Got A Job As A Bookkeeper In The Transportation Ministry And Remained Until He Felt The Situation Had Become Untenable. He Asked For Vacation Time, And When His Bosses Granted It, He Fled To Miami." "When Mr. Garcia landed in Miami in 1962, Cold War paranoia was at its peak and American officials were on high alert for Cuban spies who might be trying to enter the country. The Cuban missile crisis was just weeks away. Though Mr. Garcia had been issued a green card when he arrived in Miami six years earlier, he had forfeited his legal status when he returned to Cuba to look for work in 1959, shortly after the revolution, and remained there. He eventually got a job as a bookkeeper in the transportation ministry and remained until he felt the situation had become untenable. He asked for vacation time, and when his bosses granted it, he fled to Miami. During Mr. Garcia's hearing, immigration officials pressed him for clues about whether he was a Cuban agent. Was he a member of any political party? What did he do for the Castro government? And why did he want to leave when it seemed he had a comfortable life? "You were quite content then to remain in Cuba, is that correct?" a lawyer for the government asks him. No, no," Mr. Garcia tries to assure him, explaining that the

creeping oppression of the government made him desperate to get out. "They're watching you every day, and they want to know if you're trying to go out of the country, if you want to come to the United States." He says at the hearing that what made him decide he wanted to leave for the United States to join his wife and seven daughters, one of whom was Oria, Mr. Rubio's now 85-year-old mother, was when Castro confirmed suspicions that he was a Marxist. He insists he never registered with any political party." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

- **"Immigration Law Experts Said That The Government Would Have Been Justified In Deporting Mr. Garcia."** "Immigration law experts said that the government would have been justified in deporting Mr. Garcia. "That is not a temporary trip abroad," said Jeffrey Brauwerman, a former immigration judge in Miami, of Mr. Garcia's 1959 return to Cuba. "He has abandoned his residence. He is not a returning resident and in those days he was properly excludable." Mr. Brauwerman added that any employee of the Castro government would have received additional scrutiny because of the fear that he or she could be a spy. "We looked very carefully at people who worked in Cuba," he said." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)
- **Rubio's Grandfather Was Ultimately Granted Permanent Residency In 1967 Under The Cuban Adjustment Act.** "For years after he was allowed back into the United States, Mr. Garcia's legal status would remain unresolved. His designation as a parolee meant he would not have to leave. But he did not know whether he would ever get a green card. That did not come until almost exactly five years to the day after he was stopped in Miami. He filled out a form specifically designed for Cubans, who were granted special status for residency under the Cuban Adjustment Act of 1966. He listed his occupation as "receiving public assistance from Cuban refugee program." In the thumbnail black-and-white picture attached to the form, he is smiling and wearing a suit. His permanent residency was stamped "approved" on Sept. 13, 1967." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)
    - **"Pedro Victor's Legal Status Would Remain Unresolved For Years. Technically He Was Living In The United States Without Permission."** "Pedro Victor's legal status would remain unresolved for years. Technically he was living in the United States without permission. In 1966, though, the legal climate officially changed in his favor. In November of that year the Cuban Adjustment Act was put in place, allowing Cubans who had been admitted into the United States since January 1, 1959, to be granted permanent residency after being in the United States for one year. The next summer Pedro Victor returned to the immigration bureaucracy to ask, once again, to become a permanent resident. The photograph that accompanied his application is a tipoff that he was more upbeat about his prospects. His mouth, set so grimly when he was stopped at the airport five years earlier, spreads into an impish smile. He looks like he's about to laugh. His cheeks have even filled out a bit. The form he filled out states that he had been a Cuban refugee since February 1965. Refugee status may have been granted retroactively, Yates suggested. On September 13, 1967, the signature of Robert L. Woytych, the district director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, was stamped at a cockeyed angle on a sparse government form. The date stamp accompanying his signature strays over the previously blank line on the

form, almost obscuring the numbers. But the meaning is clear—application approved." (*The Washington Post*, 6/17/12)

Rubio, Who Has Recounted A Close Relationship With His Grandfather, Is Now Known To Support Policies That Would Have Prevented His Grandfather's Entry

Rubio, Who Has Recounted A Close Relationship With His Grandfather, Is Now Known To Support Policies That Would Have Prevented His Grandfather's Entry. "As he campaigns for president, Mr. Rubio, a Florida senator, says that the United States cannot accept refugees from Syria and Iraq because of the potential security risk. More broadly, he has called for a tightening of immigration law so that if the United States cannot identify with 100 percent certainty who immigrants are and why they want to enter, he says, "We're not going to let you in." But under the stricter screening he now supports, his grandfather would most likely have been deported, depriving him of knowing the man he has called his mentor and closest boyhood friend. "I learned at his feet, relied on his counsel and craved his respect," the senator wrote in his 2012 memoir, almost 30 years after Mr. Garcia died. "I still do." Despite Mr. Garcia's insistence that he was fleeing oppression, immigration officials raised suspicions that he might harbor communist sympathies, the records reveal. That charge, had they pursued it, could have led to a conclusion that he was a national security threat. (Details of Mr. Garcia's immigration odyssey were reported in 2012 by Manuel Roig-Franzia in his book "The Rise of Marco Rubio.")" (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

- **Rubio, Who Was Known To Have Been Close To His Grandfather, Was Deeply Affected By His Death In 1984.** "Ultimately it may have been pity for Mr. Garcia's physical condition that swayed immigration officials. Five feet 6 inches and just 120 pounds, Mr. Garcia had injured a leg in an accident and suffered from a number of ailments. Medical records show he had polio, scoliosis and signs of emphysema. He kept a three-cigar-a-day habit well into his old age. Mr. Garcia's death in 1984 fell especially hard on a 13-year-old Marco. Mr. Rubio writes vividly of finding his grandfather on the floor of their home in Las Vegas after a bad fall. When the paramedics came and transported him to the hospital, Marco accompanied him, acting as his translator. When his grandfather passed away soon after — he had long suffered from bladder cancer — Marco fell apart. He started flunking exams. He quit his football team. To this day, Mr. Rubio still invokes on the campaign trail the most important lesson he says his grandfather taught him: not to squander the opportunities his parents created for him through their sacrifice. Mr. Garcia's admiration for Ronald Reagan is the reason Mr. Rubio says he became a Republican. There is an entire chapter devoted to him in the senator's memoir called, affectionately, "Papá." Mr. Rubio said that refugee policy, even today, cannot be hard-and-fast and that some exceptions need to be made for people who are obviously no threat. "If it's a widow, or somebody in their 70s," he said in the interview, "common sense applies.'" (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)
- **"In An Interview, Mr. Rubio Acknowledged That Some Would See A Conflict Between The Stricter Immigration And Refugee Policies He Supports And His Grandfather's Experience."** "In an interview, Mr. Rubio acknowledged that some would see a conflict between the stricter immigration and refugee policies he supports and his grandfather's experience. Immigration records also show that other members of

> Mr. Rubio's family — two aunts and an uncle — were admitted as refugees. But Mr. Rubio said the difference between then and now is how much more sophisticated foreign infiltrators like the Islamic State have become, and how dangerous they are. "I recognize that's a valid point," the senator said, "But what you didn't have was a widespread effort on behalf of Fidel Castro to infiltrate into the United States killers who were going to detonate weapons and kill people." "Times have changed," he said. "Policies have to change. If there's a conflict there, I think that's just a reality." Mr. Rubio is not alone among the Republican presidential candidates in demanding a more vigilant refugee vetting process. So has Senator Ted Cruz of Texas, whose own father left Cuba. And Donald J. Trump has called for stopping immigration of Muslims altogether." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

"Immigration Records … Show That Other Members Of Mr. Rubio's Family — Two Aunts And An Uncle — Were Admitted As Refugees"

"Immigration Records Also Show That Other Members Of Mr. Rubio's Family — Two Aunts And An Uncle — Were Admitted As Refugees." "In an interview, Mr. Rubio acknowledged that some would see a conflict between the stricter immigration and refugee policies he supports and his grandfather's experience. Immigration records also show that other members of Mr. Rubio's family — two aunts and an uncle — were admitted as refugees. But Mr. Rubio said the difference between then and now is how much more sophisticated foreign infiltrators like the Islamic State have become, and how dangerous they are." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

RUBIO'S FAMILY HAS TIES TO DRUG DEALING AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

In 1987, Rubio's Brother-In-Law Orlando Cicilia Was Arrested And Sentenced For Charges Stemming From Cocaine Dealing "In One Of The Biggest Drug Cases Of Miami's Baroque Cocaine-Cowboys Era"

In 1987, Rubio's Brother-In-Law Orlando Cicilia Was Arrested And Sentenced For Charges Stemming From Cocaine Dealing "In One Of The Biggest Drug Cases Of Miami's Baroque Cocaine-Cowboys Era." "On Dec. 16, 1987, a teenager named Marco Rubio arrived home from school in West Miami to find his mother in anguish. Earlier that day, federal drug agents raided a house a few miles away that his brother-in-law, Orlando Cicilia, shared with Rubio's older sister, Barbara. Cicilia, a large, sturdily built Cuban immigrant, had played an intimate role in Rubio's early life. But as the future senator from Florida was finishing high school and preparing to go to college, his brother-in-law's illicit career as a cocaine dealer was exposed in a major trial. Cicilia was eventually sentenced to a lengthy prison term in one of the biggest drug cases of Miami's baroque cocaine-cowboys era. Rubio, who was 16 at the time of the arrest, does not mention the ordeal as he runs for president, casting his family's Cuban American immigrant story as the embodiment of the American Dream." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

Records Reveal "That Cicilia Was A Central Figure In The Smuggling Operation At The Same Time That He Was Integrated In The Life Of The Rubio Family"

Records Reveal "That Cicilia Was A Central Figure In The Smuggling Operation At The Same Time That He Was Integrated In The Life Of The Rubio Family." "There is no evidence that Rubio or his parents were aware of Cicilia's drug dealing, and Rubio's sister was not suspected of any crime. But a deep look at those turbulent years — drawing on previously unreported Drug Enforcement Administration field reports and grand jury testimony, interviews with federal task force agents, and the senator's writings — reveals that Cicilia was a central figure in the smuggling operation at the same time that he was integrated in the life of the Rubio family." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

- **"Cicilia Hired Rubio To Wash His Dogs, Giving The Football-Obsessed Teen Money To Buy Tickets To Miami Dolphins Games."** "In discussing Cicilia, Rubio focuses primarily on happy occasions. Rubio's fondest childhood memories were formed at a Cuban-style Christmas celebration that Cicilia and his sister hosted for the extended family. Cicilia hired Rubio to wash his dogs, giving the football-obsessed teen money to buy tickets to Miami Dolphins games. Rubio declined to be interviewed. His spokesman, Todd Harris, said Rubio "was just 16 at the time of the arrest and views this as a private family matter involving events that occurred almost 30 years ago." Initially, Rubio declined to answer written questions about whether Orlando Cicilia ever provided financial support to him or his family, or if he took any steps to help secure the early release of his brother-in-law from federal prison. Harris sent an email after this story was published online Saturday night saying that Rubio did not help Cicilia win early release. Harris did not address the financial support question. Orlando and Barbara Cicilia did not respond to interview requests. Harris said the Cicilias are "private citizens who do not want in any way to seek the spotlight, and we are going to respect that.'" (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

"Cicilia Served As The 'Front Man' In The Drug Ring Headed By Mario Tabraue, A Kingpin Who Ran An Exotic-Animals Business And Kept Spotted Leopards On The Walled Grounds Of His Mansion…"

"Cicilia Served As The 'Front Man' In The Drug Ring Headed By Mario Tabraue, A Kingpin Who Ran An Exotic-Animals Business And Kept Spotted Leopards On The Walled Grounds Of His Mansion, According To Interviews And Court Records." "While the case was widely covered at the time, many details of Cicilia's top-level role in the smuggling operation have not been previously reported, in part because they were stored in court files that were antiquated and difficult to access, as well as in remote archives. Cicilia served as the "front man" in the drug ring headed by Mario Tabraue, a kingpin who ran an exotic-animals business and kept spotted leopards on the walled grounds of his mansion, according to interviews and court records. Cicilia looked and sounded the part, wearing paisley suits and rakishly calling cocaine "a pretty thing," according to court records and interviews with lead investigators. The depiction of Cicilia's criminal activities that emerges in those interviews and records goes well beyond the brief description offered by Rubio in his 2012 memoir. In the book, "An American Son," Rubio refers vaguely to Cicilia's involvement "in a criminal enterprise" without

mentioning the scope of the drug ring. Rubio, who had moved with his parents back to Miami from Las Vegas more than two years before the arrest, writes poignantly about the arrest's effect on his sister and parents. But he plays down its impact on him personally, noting that his "family's troubles didn't diminish my enthusiasm for the upcoming football season.'" (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

"In 1983, Cicilia Joined The Cocaine-Smuggling Operation Led By Tabraue, According To Prosecutors, Investigators And Federal Witnesses"

"In 1983, Cicilia Joined The Cocaine-Smuggling Operation Led By Tabraue, According To Prosecutors, Investigators And Federal Witnesses." "That year was pivotal in the life of Rubio's brother-in-law. In 1983, Cicilia joined the cocaine-smuggling operation led by Tabraue, according to prosecutors, investigators and federal witnesses. At that point, Tabraue had a booming drug business, according to law enforcement officials who tracked him. Tabraue's drug ring had been populated by thugs known for their ruthlessness; some carried pistols in briefcases. Prosecutors believed that a member of Tabraue's crew had killed Larry Nash, an undercover informant for what was then the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, in 1980 and disposed of his body by dismembering it with a circular saw and burning it in a horse trough filled with charcoal. Nash's body was never found; a jury later decided that Tabraue had committed an act of racketeering by helping to dispose of the informant's corpse. What began as a marijuana-import operation in the late 1970s had blossomed into the far more lucrative business of distributing kilos of cocaine smuggled into South Florida from Colombia. During operation from 1976 to 1986, the ring moved half-a-million pounds of marijuana and 200 pounds of cocaine worth an estimated $75 million. "It was a very large operation," said Delbert Woodburn, a Miami-Dade narcotics detective who investigated Tabraue in the late 1970s and early 1980s. "Planes from Colombia were coming into the Bahamas and the Keys, landing at small airports, dropping drugs into the Everglades.'" (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

"Once Cicilia Joined, He Became The "Front Man," Insulating Tabraue By Handing Over Drugs To Buyers And Coordinating Shipments Around The Country, According To Interviews, DEA Field Reports And Grand Jury Testimony Obtained By The Washington Post"

"Once Cicilia Joined, He Became The "Front Man," Insulating Tabraue By Handing Over Drugs To Buyers And Coordinating Shipments Around The Country, According To Interviews, DEA Field Reports And Grand Jury Testimony Obtained By The Washington Post." "Once Cicilia joined, he became the "front man," insulating Tabraue by handing over drugs to buyers and coordinating shipments around the country, according to interviews, DEA field reports and grand jury testimony obtained by The Washington Post. As the business flourished, Cicilia took on the appearance of the quintessential Miami underworld hotshot, donning sunglasses and wearing his paisley suit sleeves rolled up. It was as if he'd walked off a "Miami Vice" TV set, Larry A. Loveless, the lead DEA agent in the investigation, said in a recent interview. Law enforcement officials say Cicilia was getting rich. "Mario was the kingpin, and Orlando was his second in command," said Michael Fisten, a homicide detective who worked on the case and is writing a book about it. "He always had large amounts of cash on him." Cicilia worked out of Tabraue's business in southwest Miami, Zoological Imports Unlimited, which agents called "the pet store," DEA field reports say." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

“Cicilia Was The Go-To Man For The Operation’s Cocaine Transactions, Whether They Involved A Few Ounces Or Multiple Kilos”

“Cicilia Was The Go-To Man For The Operation’s Cocaine Transactions, Whether They Involved A Few Ounces Or Multiple Kilos.” “Cicilia handled the inventory for Tabraue, coordinated shipments around the country and collected the money, according to DEA field reports and court records. Sometimes he would stash the cocaine at his home. During one undercover buy, Cicilia “stated that he had to go home to get the cocaine, and would return with the cocaine to the pet store,” a DEA report says. DEA agents installed a listening device at the pet store and tracked calls made to and from Cicilia’s home phone. Their informant wore a wire during his conversations with Cicilia and Tabraue. As the DEA agents recorded the conversations, one thing became clear: Cicilia was the go-to man for the operation’s cocaine transactions, whether they involved a few ounces or multiple kilos. In 101 pages of DEA field reports and sworn statements obtained by The Post, Cicilia is named 147 times. Cicilia used code words for -cocaine buys: “little birds” for ounces, “big birds” for kilos. He boasted that the cocaine offered by the Tabraue ring was some of the best on the street. “Pure rock,” Cicilia called it. A pound sold for $15,000; a kilo, or 2.2 pounds, went for as much as $28,000.” (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

“On Feb. 6, 1989, The Jury Convicted Tabraue, Cicilia And Five Other Men. Tabraue Got 100 Years In Prison But Would Be Released Early In 2003 After Serving 14 Years. Cicilia Received 35 Years, The Second-Longest Sentence, And The Jury Found Him Responsible For $15 Million In Drug Sales. The Money Has Never Been Found”

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"In The Years That Followed The Arrest, The Cicilia And Rubio Families Have Remained Deeply Intertwined — Personally, Financially, Politically And Emotionally. Rubio's Staff Complained Vehemently When Cicilia's Long-Forgotten Case Was The Subject Of A 2011 Report On The Spanish-Language Television Network Univision"

"In The Years That Followed The Arrest, The Cicilia And Rubio Families Have Remained Deeply Intertwined — Personally, Financially, Politically And Emotionally. Rubio's Staff Complained Vehemently When Cicilia's Long-Forgotten Case Was The Subject Of A 2011 Report On The Spanish-Language Television Network Univision." "In the years that followed the arrest, the Cicilia and Rubio families have remained deeply intertwined — personally, financially, politically and emotionally. Rubio's staff complained vehemently when Cicilia's long-forgotten case was the subject of a 2011 report on the Spanish-language television network Univision. Orlando and Barbara Cicilia remained married throughout his 12-year prison term. Cicilia, now 58, and his wife live in Rubio's childhood home with the senator's mother, Oriales Rubio, whom the Republican candidate mentions frequently on the campaign trail. Property records show that Rubio's parents added the names of Orlando and Barbara Cicilia to the home's deed in 2002, two years after Cicilia was released from prison." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

- **"When Rubio's Senate Campaign Was Looking For Office Space, It Was Cicilia, Now A Real Estate Agent, Who Helped To Find A Location, According To A Friend Of Both Men. Cicilia Has Had No Further Troubles With The Law, According To A Review Of Court Records."** (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

- **"Rubio, Now 44, Is Close To Cicilia's Sons, Daniel And Orlando, The Latter Nicknamed "Landy"; Like Members Of His Immediate Family, They Call Rubio "Tony," An Americanized Version Of His Middle Name, Antonio."** "Rubio, now 44, is close to Cicilia's sons, Daniel and Orlando, the latter nicknamed "Landy"; like members of his immediate family, they call Rubio "Tony," an Americanized version of his middle name, Antonio. Rubio-affiliated PACs and his campaigns, including his presidential operation, have paid more than $130,000 to his nephews over the past decade, with the bulk of that going to Landy Cicilia's video and consulting companies, according to financial disclosures and filings. Harris said Landy Cicilia has shot some of the campaign's most popular videos, including a fantasy-football piece that has gotten 50,000 YouTube views. The Cicilia sons did not respond to requests for comment. On the night of Rubio's greatest political triumph — his 2010 Senate victory — it was Landy Cicilia who drove Rubio to the elegant Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Fla., for his celebration. On stage that night, with confetti cascading down, music blaring and a national television audience looking on, a graying man stood behind Rubio. He was a man with a troubled past: Orlando Cicilia." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

"When Marco Rubio Was Majority Whip Of The Florida House Of Representatives, He Used His Official Position To Urge State Regulators To Grant A Real Estate License To His Brother-In-Law, A Convicted Cocaine Trafficker Who Had Been Released From Prison 20 Months Earlier, According To Records Obtained By The Washington Post"

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"In July 2002, Rubio Sent A Letter On His Official Statehouse Stationery To The Florida Division Of Real Estate, Recommending Orlando Cicilia "For Licensure Without Reservation'"

"In July 2002, Rubio Sent A Letter On His Official Statehouse Stationery To The Florida Division Of Real Estate, Recommending Orlando Cicilia "For Licensure Without Reservation.'" 'In July 2002, Rubio sent a letter on his official statehouse stationery to the Florida Division of Real Estate, recommending Orlando Cicilia "for licensure without reservation." The letter, obtained by The Washington Post under the Florida Public Records Act, offers a glimpse of Rubio using his growing political power to assist his troubled brother-in-law and provides new insight into how the young lawmaker intertwined his personal and political lives." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)

"Rubio Did Not Disclose In The Letter That Cicilia Was Married To His Sister, Barbara, Or That The Former Cocaine Dealer Was Living At The Time In The Same West Miami Home As Rubio's Parents. He Wrote That He Had Known Cicilia "For Over 25 Years," Without Elaborating"

"Rubio Did Not Disclose In The Letter That Cicilia Was Married To His Sister, Barbara, Or That The Former Cocaine Dealer Was Living At The Time In The Same West Miami Home As Rubio's Parents. He Wrote That He Had Known Cicilia "For Over 25 Years," Without Elaborating." "Rubio did not disclose in the letter that Cicilia was married to his sister, Barbara, or that the former cocaine dealer was living at the time in the same West Miami home as Rubio's parents. He wrote that he had known Cicilia "for over 25 years," without elaborating. Rubio has avoided discussing Cicilia's case in detail and has declined to answer questions about his relationship with his brother-in-law. Earlier this month, prior to The Post publishing an article about Cicilia's case, Rubio declined to answer a written question about whether he had helped win the approval of his brother-in-law's real estate license. Rubio also declined to say whether he or his family received financial assistance from Cicilia, who was convicted in a high-profile 1989 trial of distributing $15 million worth of cocaine. The federal government seized Cicilia's home; the money has never been found." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)

- **"Danielle Brian, Executive Director Of The Project On Government Oversight, A Government Watchdog Group In Washington, Said Rubio's Role Concerned Her."** "Danielle Brian, executive director of the Project on Government Oversight, a

government watchdog group in Washington, said Rubio's role concerned her. "Someone who serves their time should be a productive member of society, and it's important for families to help each other, but it's wrong to use your public office for personal or private gain," Brian said. By not disclosing his relationship, Rubio withheld a key piece of information from the real estate board, Brian added. "The general rule of thumb I apply to conflicts of interest is, if you can't eliminate them, you need to manage them by disclosing the conflict," she said. "I'm uncomfortable that he didn't acknowledge the conflict." Rubio, a Republican who represents Florida in the U.S. Senate, was a 16-year-old high school junior in 1987 when Cicilia was arrested in one of the largest drug cases in Florida history. There has never been any evidence that Rubio or his family knew that Cicilia was dealing cocaine, although Drug Enforcement Administration surveillance records show Cicilia stored cocaine from the drug ring at his home, a few miles away from where Rubio and his parents lived." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)

"Three Years Later, When Rubio Was Looking For A New Home, He Turned To The Real Estate Agent In The Family To Help Him Arrange The Purchase: Orlando Cicilia"

"Three Years Later, When Rubio Was Looking For A New Home, He Turned To The Real Estate Agent In The Family To Help Him Arrange The Purchase: Orlando Cicilia." "At the suggestion of an official in the Florida Division of Real Estate, Cicilia asked for his application to be considered at a hearing of the Real Estate Commission in July 2002. Along with his request, he sent three recommendation letters. One was from a real estate executive who said he had known him for 30 years; another was from his boss at the food sales company, who described him as "efficient, punctual, meticulous in his work and in every way a model employee." The third was from the majority whip of the Florida House of Representatives — his brother-in-law. "I have known Mr. Cicilia for over 25 years," Rubio wrote in a July 1, 2002, letter to an official in the Real Estate Division of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. "I recommend him for licensure without reservation. If I can be of further assistance on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me directly." Cicilia got his hearing. A letter from the Real Estate Division let him know that his application was placed on the agenda for the Real Estate Commission's July 17, 2002, meeting. The next day, he was approved. He was officially a real estate agent. Three years later, when Rubio was looking for a new home, he turned to the real estate agent in the family to help him arrange the purchase: Orlando Cicilia." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)

RUBIO HAS BEEN KNOWN TO FACE A BEVY OF ADDITIONAL FINANCE ISSUES

"Rubio Has Had Long-Standing Struggles With Money"

"Rubio Has Had Long-Standing Struggles With Money." "Rubio has had long-standing struggles with money. When he entered the Florida legislature in 2000, he was making $72,000 a year as a lawyer at a Miami law firm. But he pegged his net worth at zero in his first three required annual financial disclosure forms." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

- **NOTE: In 2015, Trump Criticized Rubio's Financial Decision Making Noting "He Has A Very Bad Record Of Finances, With His Houses, He Certainly Lives Above**

His Means, There Is No Question About That." "Over the years Rubio has made contradictory statements when challenged about his finances, and his opponents have suggested that someone who struggles to manage their own budget shouldn't have control over the U.S. economy. "He has a very bad record of finances, with his houses, he certainly lives above his means, there is no question about that," Trump said this week. But Salon's Simon Maloy argues that portraying Rubio as bad with his finances just gives him an opportunity to note that he's not wealthy, and understands the struggles of everyday Americans. "The damning part of all this is that he abused resources made available to him as Speaker," says Maloy. "I'm not especially bothered that Rubio can't balance his checkbook, but I do care that he's a corruptible sneak." So far, Rubio has successfully pushed the former narrative, but with more information forthcoming, his opponents may be able to put a more nefarious spin on his money troubles." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

According To Financial Disclosures In 2000, Rubio "Had $150,000 In Student-Loan Debt, $30,000 In Other Debt, And A Net Worth Of Zero"

According To Financial Disclosures In 2000, Rubio "Had $150,000 In Student-Loan Debt, $30,000 In Other Debt, And A Net Worth Of Zero." "Lots. According to financial disclosures, shortly after he was elected to the Florida Legislature in 2000, he had $150,000 in student-loan debt, $30,000 in other debt, and a net worth of zero." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

- **Rubio's Debt Problems Grew Worse By 2002.** "By 2002, he was making more money, drawing in $96,000 at another law firm, plus a $28,702 legislative salary. But his balance sheet looked even worse. His net worth had sunk below zero — to negative $103,000." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

Rubio Has Exhibited Poor Personal Financial Decision-Making While In Politics Including "Leasing A $50,000 Audi Q7, Saving Relatively Little, And Using The $800,000 Advance From His First Book To Buy" A Fishing Boat

Rubio Has Exhibited Poor Personal Financial Decision-Making While In Politics Including "Leasing A $50,000 Audi Q7, Saving Relatively Little, And Using The $800,000 Advance From His First Book To Buy" A Fishing Boat. "Lots. According to financial disclosures, shortly after he was elected to the Florida Legislature in 2000, he had $150,000 in student-loan debt, $30,000 in other debt, and a net worth of zero. The Times recently detailed Rubio's questionable financial decisions since then, which include leasing a $50,000 Audi Q7, saving relatively little, and using the $800,000 advance from his first book to buy what the paper called "$80,000 for a luxury speedboat" (later his campaign informed the media that it's actually a modest fishing boat). The Rubios' financial situation has improved in recent years, thanks largely to proceeds from Rubio's two books. He's said he paid off his student loans shortly after becoming a senator with money he earned from An American Son." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Rubio Has Engaged In The Use Of Debt And Student Loans

In 2022, Rubio Said "He Understands The Issues With Student Loans In The US Because He Too Had $100,000 In Student Debt Before Getting Elected To Congress And Writing A Book That Allowed Him To Pay It Off." "Republican Sen. Marco Rubio said Saturday he

understands the issues with student loans in the US because he too had $100,000 in student debt before getting elected to Congress and writing a book that allowed him to pay it off. The Florida senator appeared on Fox News' "One Nation with Brian Kilmeade" to discuss his concerns with President Joe Biden's plan to cancel up to $20,000 in student-loan debt for federal borrowers making under $125,000 a year. Rubio said he agrees student loans need to be reformed and that he too was burdened for years with thousands of dollars of student debt. "I owed over $100,000 in students loans," Rubio said. "The day I got elected to the Senate I had over $100,000 still in student loans that I was able to pay off because I wrote a book. And from that money I was able to pay it, if not I'd still be paying it.'" (Business Insider, 8/28/22)

- **VIDEO: Rubio: "The Day I Got Elected In The Senate I Had Over $100k In Student Loans That I Was Able To Pay Off Because I Wrote A Book."** (Fox News, 8/27/22)



(Fox News, 8/27/22)

Rubio Was Only Able To Pay Off His +$100,00 Student Loan Debt By Receiving A $800,000 Book Advance From Penguin Group In 2012 For His Memoir. "Rubio graduated from the University of Florida in 1993 and got his law degree from the University of Miami Law School in 1996. He served in local and state offices, including as Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, before getting elected to the Senate in 2010. His book, "An American Son: A Memoir," was published in 2013. Financial disclosures showed Rubio received an $800,000 book advance from the publisher, Penguin Group, in 2012, the Tampa Bay Times reported. The disclosures also showed Rubio no longer reported having $100,000 in student debt. Rubio's annual salary as a US senator has been $174,000 since taking office in 2011, with his income boosted significantly by book deals and royalties, as is common for US politicians. He published a second book, "American Dreams: Restoring Economic Opportunity for Everyone," in 2015. It's unclear how large a book advance Rubio received for that book, but the Associated Press reported in 2016 that 2012 had been his most lucrative year, suggesting it was less than for his first book." (Business Insider, 8/28/22)

In 2014, Rubio Liquidated Most Of His Retirement Accounts Likely Costing Him $24,000 In Taxes And Penalties

In 2014, Rubio Liquidated Most Of His Retirement Accounts Likely Costing Him $24,000 In Taxes And Penalties. "He liquidated most of his retirement savings last year, though financial experts say that's usually a very bad idea. According to the AP, his financial-disclosure statement shows that he sold six retirement funds in September 2014 for $68,000. The New York Times reports the move likely cost Rubio about $24,000 in taxes and penalties, and at the time he had between $100,000 and $250,000 in a checking account, between $50,000 and $100,000 in a money-market account, and he'd signed a seven-figure book deal." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

RUBIO CLAIMS TO HAVE BRIEFLY BEEN A MORMON

2012: "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Credits His Short-Lived Time As A Mormon For Providing A Moral Compass In His Youth, Though He Also Discloses For The First Time His Family's Struggles With The Constraints Of The Faith And His Eventual Return To The Catholic Fold"

2012: "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Credits His Short-Lived Time As A Mormon For Providing A Moral Compass In His Youth, Though He Also Discloses For The First Time His Family's Struggles With The Constraints Of The Faith And His Eventual Return To The Catholic Fold." "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio credits his short-lived time as a Mormon for providing a moral compass in his youth, though he also discloses for the first time his family's struggles with the constraints of the faith and his eventual return to the Catholic fold. In his new autobiography, An American Son, available Tuesday, the Florida Republican candidly discusses the three years he spent as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and lauds the Utah-based faith for helping his Cuban-immigrant mother and him when they moved from Miami to Las Vegas when he was a grade-schooler. "All in all, the Mormon church provided the sound moral structure my mother had wanted for us, and a circle of friends from stable, God-fearing families," Rubio writes in his book. "When we left the church a few years later, mostly at my instigation, we did so with gratitude for its considerable contribution to our happiness in those years.'" (*Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/18/12)

In 2012, "Rubio — A Potential Running Mate To Presumptive Presidential Nominee Mitt Romney, A Mormon — Talks For The First Time In His Memoir About Converting To The Faith, A Family Trip To Provo And Salt Lake City To Visit Temple Sites And How Seriously He Took His New Religion"

In 2012, "Rubio — A Potential Running Mate To Presumptive Presidential Nominee Mitt Romney, A Mormon — Talks For The First Time In His Memoir About Converting To The Faith, A Family Trip To Provo And Salt Lake City To Visit Temple Sites And How Seriously He Took His New Religion." "Rubio — a potential running mate to presumptive presidential nominee Mitt Romney, a Mormon — talks for the first time in his memoir about converting to the faith, a family trip to Provo and Salt Lake City to visit temple sites and how seriously he took his new religion. "In contrast to my parents, I immersed myself in LDS

theology, and understood it as well as an 8-year-old mind can," Rubio writes. "Although my school grades were never impressive, I was a voracious reader, and I studied church literature and other sources of information to learn all I could about the church's teachings." Rubio's journey to Mormonism began when his family settled in "fascinatingly strange" Las Vegas in 1979. The family's new home, on a cul-de-sac in a working-class neighborhood, was right across the street from his new friends, the Thiriot boys, who were Latter-day Saints. "They were a close-knit family who were always doing things together," Rubio says. "They represented the kind of safe, respectable family life my parents wanted for us." The faith's wholesomeness, its values and the community closeness that came with it drove Rubio, his mother, Oriala, and his sister, Veronica, to baptism. His father, Mario, didn't convert, Rubio writes. Bryan Thiriot, a Republican consultant and legislative chairman of a St. George district, recalls growing up with Rubio, who was also known as Tony, a shortened version of his middle name, Anthony. "We were very close friends growing up there," Thiriot recalls. The two attended school together, sat by each other in church, teamed up on camping trips and competed in Pinewood Derbies. "I would say this straight up, Marco is a very religious man," Thiriot told The Salt Lake Tribune, noting long conversations the two had about faith and politics. "We actually had conversations about Social Security." On occasion, Rubio's chatting got to be too much. "He never stopped talking. He was a constant talker," Thiriot says. "Sometimes he talked so much that he'd get in trouble at school." While LDS values and morals drew the Rubios to the faith, Rubio says, it was the religion's ban on tobacco, alcohol and coffee that made staying tough. "Some of the church's rules were difficult for my parents, especially my father, to abide by," Rubio says, adding that his dad, who never joined the LDS Church, had smoked since age 13 and worked as a bartender." (*Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/18/12)

Rubio Notes Having Been Formally Baptized Into The Mormon Church

Rubio Notes Having Been Formally Baptized Into The Mormon Church. "My parents, especially my mother, attributed the neighborhood's wholesomeness to the influence of the Mormon Church. The neighborhood church sponsored a Cub Scout pack, father-&-son camping trips, and various other family activities. Mormons are encouraged by the church to recruit converts to the faith. I had been baptized in the Catholic Church, and when I was very young had regularly attended Mass with my mother. But ours had not been a very Catholic home for some time. By the time I had entered grade school, weekly Mass was no longer part of our family routine, and I had yet to receive the Church's sacraments. I don't believe my mother ever really understood Mormon theology, but her intense desire to be part of a community with upstanding values and caring, cohesive families made her an eager convert. My mother, sister and I were baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints, and began attending Sunday services at the church next door to my school." (An American Son, by Marco Rubio, p. 38 Jun 19, 2012)

"Eventually, A Friend From Rubio's Grade School Who Was Catholic Piqued The Future Senator's Interest, And He Began Learning About The Faith His Mother Grew Up In. He Said Leaving The Mormon Religion Was His Decision"

"Eventually, A Friend From Rubio's Grade School Who Was Catholic Piqued The Future Senator's Interest, And He Began Learning About The Faith His Mother Grew Up In. He Said Leaving The Mormon Religion Was His Decision." "Rubio says he chided his father for

slinging booze, but also noted that Cuban coffee was a staple that neither parent would give up. Eventually, a friend from Rubio's grade school who was Catholic piqued the future senator's interest, and he began learning about the faith his mother grew up in. He said leaving the Mormon religion was his decision. "We left the Mormon church with nothing but admiration for the place that had been our first spiritual home in Las Vegas and had been so generous to us," Rubio writes. "I still feel that way." Another book out Tuesday, The Rise of Marco Rubio, by The Washington Post's Manuel Roig-Franzia, also sheds light on Rubio's time as a Mormon. Roig-Franzia writes that Rubio and his cousins adored the Osmond family and Rubio, his sister and their cousin Michelle performed songs from Donny and Marie. The book's author also notes that "faith was a central tenet of Rubio's life" and noted that a young Rubio had an unusual control over his family's religious identity, helping bring them to the Mormon faith and then back to Catholicism. "He really convinced his whole family to switch religions," says cousin Michelle Denis. One thing is clear, Roig-Franzia writes, the Rubio family never asked to be removed from the LDS rolls, "meaning they may still be counted as Mormons by the church.'" (*Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/18/12)

APPENDIX A: ISSUES OF NOTE (BY SUBJECT AREA)

Below is a non-comprehensive reference section pertaining to Marco Rubio's issues and policy positions of note. Any actionable material from this section has been incorporated into the prior narrative sections.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES

Taxes

Sales Tax – Increase (National Sales Tax/ Fair Tax)

In 2007, Rubio Cited Mike Huckabee's Support Of Implementing A National Sales Tax Via The Fair Tax Proposal As A Reason For Endorsing Him; Rubio Noted "I Like The Concept. I Think There Has To Be Deeper Discussion About How It's Applied." "Republican presidential contender Mike Huckabee's calm demeanor and staunch anti-abortion stance were just a few of the reasons he picked up House Speaker Marco Rubio's endorsement, the West Miami Republican said Wednesday after a speech at The Breakers hotel in Palm Beach. Huckabee's embrace of a national retail sales tax has riled some conservatives and business groups, but only added to his appeal to Rubio, who described the former Arkansas governor as a visionary willing to swim against the political tide. "I like the concept. I think there has to be deeper discussion about how it's applied," Rubio said of Huckabee's tax stance. Huckabee supports the so-called "FairTax," a type of national retail sales tax that he claims would abolish the Internal Revenue Service and federal income and payroll taxes. The plan would essentially replace the federal tax code with a national tax on consumption. It's a retail tax much like what most states already have in place. "The notion that a consumption tax is fairer than an income tax or a property tax is something that I believe," said Rubio, who last year pushed unsuccessfully for the Legislature to abolish all state property taxes in lieu of a major hike in sales taxes. Rubio said he personally met several times with each of the leading Republican presidential contenders but consistently felt the most aligned with the former Arkansas governor. "He's the most conservative candidate in the race, and he gives Reagan Republicans like myself the best chance to win the nomination," Rubio said. "Obviously, I don't have anything against any of the candidates. I admire something about all of them. But to me, he's the one that I feel the most comfortable with on the social issues, as well as on the fiscal and other issues." Rubio's endorsement, which was announced formally in Miami on Monday, is seen as key to helping Huckabee woo Florida Hispanic and conservative voters. Rubio, a conservative Republican, is the state's first Cuban-American House speaker." (*Sun Sentinel*, 12/12/07)

Sales Tax – Increase (Property Tax Swap)

In 2006 And 2007, Rubio Proposed A "Plan To Abolish Property Taxes On Primary Residences In Exchange For A 2.5 Percent Increase In The State's 6 Percent Sales Tax, Making Florida's The Highest Statewide Rate In The Nation"; The Plan Was Fiercely Opposed By Businesses "Warning The High Sales Tax Would Devastate Their Bottom Line While Doing Nothing To Cut Property Taxes." "House Speaker Marco Rubio looks poised to begin a new chapter in his saga to overhaul Florida's property-tax system. But this time, he'll

include a new cast of characters, a coterie of business groups and trade associations. Rubio's courting of business is a sharp departure from last year, when most of this powerful lobby first learned about his dramatic tax-swap idea by skimming through his book, 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future. Idea 96 was his plan to abolish property taxes on primary residences in exchange for a 2.5 percent increase in the state's 6 percent sales tax, making Florida's the highest statewide rate in the nation. Businesses howled, warning the high sales tax would devastate their bottom line while doing nothing to cut property taxes. The idea eventually failed in the Legislature. The speaker, though, still would like to see property taxes go away. "There is no way to fairly and affordably tax home ownership. There's no way to do it," Rubio, R-West Miami, said last week. But he also is a realist. He has staked his still-unclear political future on passage of a proposed constitutional amendment creating a new homestead superexemption and needs the campaign dollars of business groups to rally public support behind it on Jan. 29. Both sides last week appeared ready to deal. Businesses generally shrug at a bigger homestead exemption, since there's nothing in it for them. But they do want to play nice with Rubio, who can help them next year in passing legislation to ease property taxes on businesses. They already have a menu of ideas. "There's so much more to do," Rubio echoed last week. Gov. Charlie Crist and Rubio are often at odds — over gambling, property insurance, even Seminoles versus Gators. But Crist, too, is courting businesses in his own bid to pump up prospects for the January amendment." (*Orlando Sentinel*, 9/23/07)

"The Republican-Led Senate Blasted It As The Biggest Tax Increase In Florida's History, Democrats Blasted It As A Regressive Blow To The Poor. Rubio Muscled It Through The House On A Mostly Party-Line Vote, But That Was As Far As It Would Go." "A soaring real estate market resulted in big bills for many and giant inequities with those who had long enjoyed a constitutional assessment cap. At the start of the 2007 legislative session, Rubio proposed eliminating property taxes on primary homes in favor of a 2.5 cent sales tax increase. The Republican-led Senate blasted it as the biggest tax increase in Florida's history, Democrats blasted it as a regressive blow to the poor. Rubio muscled it through the House on a mostly party-line vote, but that was as far as it would go. "Marco's idea was a solid one that would have jump-started the economy," Bush said in an interview. "Back in the day, a lot of good ideas died in the Florida Senate. Believe me, I know. In addition, Gov. Crist wasn't very helpful as well." Rubio scores his tenure a success — many of the 100 Ideas became law — because it was about issues and ideas. "People used to view the political process as this competition between the House and Senate, who got more of what they wanted. I never viewed it that way." In fact, Rubio won even by losing. The property tax proposal put him on the national map, gaining media exposure and attention from conservative lions like Grover Norquist and Newt Gingrich. He shrewdly used the issue to travel the state, exposing himself to GOP activists and a growing antigovernment mood that later became the tea party." (*Miami Herald*, 10/9/10)

- **"The Change Would Not Only Hurt The Poorest Floridians But Also Bankrupt Cities, Many Experts Warned."** "His marquee proposal as speaker, introduced early in 2007, was to all but eliminate property taxes, the largest source of revenue for every municipal government in the state. To replace that cash, Rubio wanted to hike the sales tax. The change would not only hurt the poorest Floridians but also bankrupt cities, many

experts warned. The proposal made it to the House floor in 2007 but could never find traction in the more moderate Senate." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

VIDEO: Jeb Bush Noted His Support For Rubio's 2007 Proposal To "Allow Floridians To Eliminate Their Property Taxes In Exchange For Two Penny Increase In Sales Tax." (YouTube, 3/27/10)

- **NOTE:** *The video, posted by Rubio himself, offers the following caption: "In 2007, Marco Rubio proposed a bold plan to allow Floridians to eliminate their property taxes in exchange for two penny increase in sales tax. Charlie Crist blocked the plan, then endorsed a similar plan from the Taxation and Budget Review Commission, and now calls it a "tax increase." See what Jeb Bush said about the plan that earned Marco Rubio the label "America's most pro-taxpayer legislator" from Americans for Tax Reform."*



(YouTube, 3/27/10)

Entitlement Reform

Overall – General Criticisms Of Entitlement Programs

In A 2011 Speech At The Reagan Presidential Library, Rubio Argued Entitlement Programs Such As Social Security And Medicare Have "Weakened Us As A People."
"Murphy was referring to a speech Rubio gave at the Ronald Reagan presidential library in 2011. The quote is accurate, but it did not come in a speech arguing for such drastic reforms to Social Security and Medicare as Murphy described. During his speech, Rubio said Democrats and Republicans created programs and levels of spending that -- while well intentioned -- were doomed to fail from the start. "These programs actually weakened us as a people. You see, almost in forever, it was institutions and society that assumed the role of taking care of one another. If someone was sick in your family, you took care of them. If a neighbor met misfortune, you took care of them. You saved for your retirement and your future because you

had to." "We took these things upon ourselves and our communities and our families and our homes and our churches and our synagogues. But all that changed when the government began to assume those responsibilities. All of the sudden, for an increasing number of people in our nation, it was no longer necessary to worry about saving for security because that was the government's job. ... "The other thing is that we built a government and its programs without any account whatsoever for how we were going to pay for it. There was not thought given into how this was going to be sustained." A Rubio spokesman pointed us to the section in which Rubio said the programs didn't take into account future costs. But Rubio did say that such programs "weakened" Americans. Rubio has long called for reforming Social Security and Medicare. In Florida, about 21 percent of Florida's population -- about 3.9 million people -- receive Social Security benefits. About 4 million Floridians use Medicare for health insurance. The programs accounted for 41 percent of federal program expenditures in fiscal year 2015. The programs face long-term financing shortfalls, leading program trustees and federal budget experts to call for action by Congress. Rubio has said that he favors raising the retirement age for people such as himself in their 40s but not for current retirees or those who will retire soon." (PolitiFact, 10/27/16)

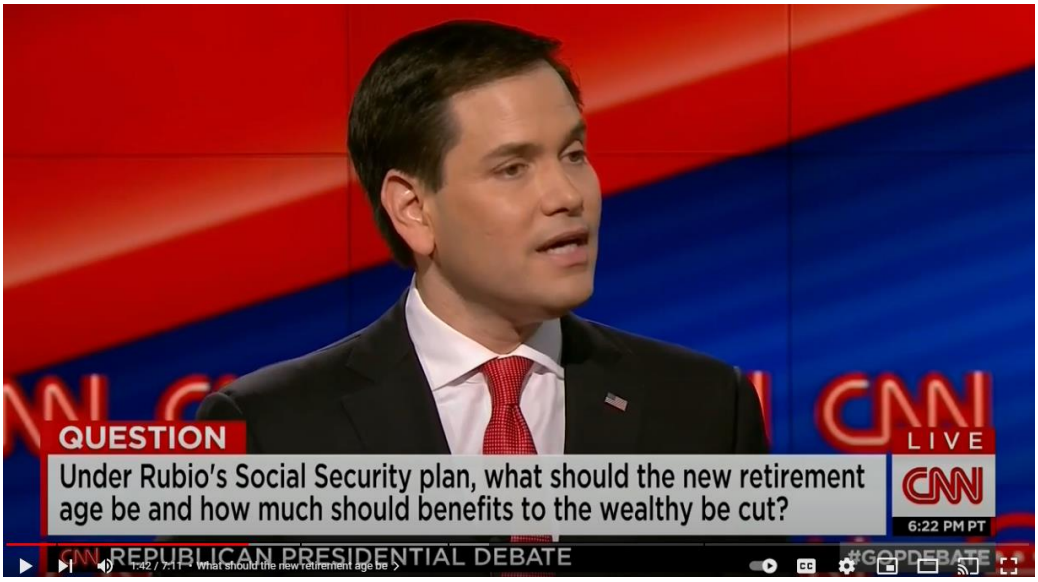
- **NOTE:** *The 2011 speech during which Rubio accused entitlement programs of weakening Americans can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/.*



(YouTube, 8/23/11)

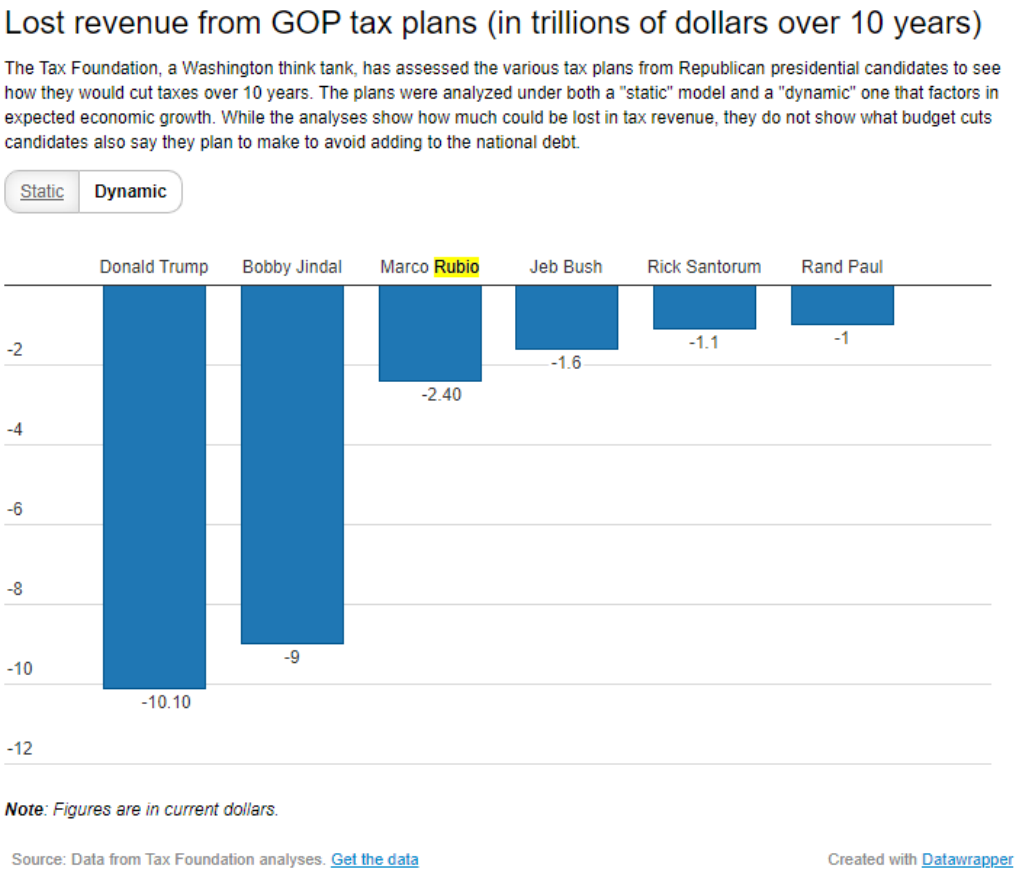
Overall – Medicare And Social Security Cuts

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Notes That He Would Raise The Retirement Age For Younger Workers (Gradual Increase From 67 To 70), Cut Social Security Benefits For High Earners, And Transition Medicare To An Apparent Voucher System. (YouTube, 3/10/16)


QUESTION
Under Rubio's Social Security plan, what should the new retirement age be and how much should benefits to the wealthy be cut?
LIVE
CNN
6:22 PM PT
REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

(YouTube, 3/10/16)

In 2015, Dynamic Scoring Of Rubio's Tax Plan, Taking Economic Growth Into Account, Indicated That Rubio Would Need To Cut $2.4 Trillion In Government Spending For It To Be Revenue Neutral; Rubio Noted He Would Reform Medicare And Social Security To Actually Address The Debt Through His Plan. "Even under dynamic scoring – thus taking into account economic growth it spurs – Trump's would cost $10.1 trillion, Jindal's $9 trillion, Rubio's $2.4 trillion, Bush's $1.6 trillion, Santorum's $1.1 trillion and Paul's less than $1 trillion, according to Tax Foundation analyses. The Tax Foundation also went forward 35 years to show the impact the Rubio plan would have on the national debt. In the long run, the plan raises revenue, it said. But unless the tax cuts are offset elsewhere in the budget, the proposal would increase the debt in the first eight years – and the "cumulative effect . . . would be significant," it wrote in a March report. Bernstein of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities is more blunt: "The only way to absorb such large revenue losses without incurring significant new debt – debt that would take us way over the ceiling – is to cut spending by the same amount. And that's simply implausible. I certainly haven't heard any cuts of that magnitude – or any magnitude – specified by Rubio." Because of the impact of initial deficits and the extra interest costs they produce, the proposal as offered by Rubio and Lee in March would only return the national debt to its current levels in the year 2040, according to the Tax Foundation analysis. Since introducing the tax plan in March, Rubio has said he plans to attack the broader debt issue by doing two things: Cutting taxes to boost the economy and holding the line on spending. He says that the country needs to change Social Security and Medicare, ensuring that they are protected for the current recipients but acknowledging that the programs will be different for younger generations. On Social Security, for example, he has a list of policy proposals. Some of those would reduce costs, such as one to gradually increase the Social Security retirement age. But the actual cost to the budget or to individual Americans hasn't been specified. Asked whether his tax plan would result in the debt ceiling needing to be raised, campaign spokeswoman Brooke Sammon said Rubio doesn't think it will need to be." (*McClatchy*, 10/16/15)


Lost revenue from GOP tax plans (in trillions of dollars over 10 years)
The Tax Foundation, a Washington think tank, has assessed the various tax plans from Republican presidential candidates to see how they would cut taxes over 10 years. The plans were analyzed under both a "static" model and a "dynamic" one that factors in expected economic growth. While the analyses show how much could be lost in tax revenue, they do not show what budget cuts candidates also say they plan to make to avoid adding to the national debt.
Static
Dynamic
Donald Trump
Bobby Jindal
Marco Rubio
Jeb Bush
Rick Santorum
Rand Paul
-2
-4
-6
-8
-10
-12
-10.10
-9
-2.40
-1.6
-1.1
-1
Note: Figures are in current dollars.
Source: Data from Tax Foundation analyses. Get the data
Created with Datawrapper

(*McClatchy*, 10/16/15)

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Defended His Proposed Tax Plan While Acknowledging That It Would Also Require Making Cuts To Social Security Benefits For Individuals 25 Years Away From Retirement. (YouTube, 11/3/15)



(YouTube, 11/3/15)

VIDEO: In 2010, Rubio Implicitly Supports Cutting Medicare And Social Security Spending For People Who Are Not Yet Current Beneficiaries Contending That The "Current System That Is In Place Isn't Sustainable Now." (YouTube, 3/20/10)



(YouTube, 3/20/10)

Medicare Reform – Support (Ryan Medicare Proposal And Ryan Budgets)

In 2011, Rubio Noted His Support For The Ryan Medicare Reform Proposal Stating "Rep. Paul Ryan Has Offered A Plan That Would Make No Changes Whatsoever For Anyone Age 55 And Older. I Support It Because, Right Now, It Is The Only Plan Out There That Helps Save Medicare." "For me, Medicare is not a political talking point. My parents immigrated to the United States in the late 1950s. They worked hard for over 40 years to provide their children the chance to do all the things they themselves could not. But they never made much money. As a result, they retired with precious little in savings. Medicare was and is the only way they could access healthcare. When my father got sick, Medicare paid for his numerous hospital stays. And as he reached the end of life, Medicare allowed him to die with dignity by paying for his hospice care. Like most 80-year-olds, my mother has several age-related ailments. Without the access to quality healthcare that Medicare pays for, I cannot imagine what life would be like for her. America needs Medicare. We need it to continue without any benefit reductions for those like my mother currently in the system. And we need it to survive for my generation and my children's generation. But Medicare is going bankrupt. Anyone who says it is not is simply lying. And anyone who is in favor of doing nothing to deal with this fact is in favor of bankrupting it. Medicare will go broke in as little as nine years. No one likes this news, but it is the undeniable truth. And the sooner we begin to deal with it, the better off we are all going to be. My goals are simple. First, I will not support any plan that changes Medicare for people like

my mother who are currently on the plan. We cannot ask seniors to go out and get a job to pay for their healthcare. Second, any solution must solve the problem. We need to save Medicare, not simply delay its bankruptcy. And third, any solution cannot hurt economic growth. At a time of high unemployment, Americans cannot afford to pay more taxes. I will support any serious plan that accomplishes these three things. It does not matter to me if it comes from a Democrat or a Republican. Saving Medicare is more important than partisan politics. Rep. Paul Ryan has offered a plan that would make no changes whatsoever for anyone age 55 and older. I support it because, right now, it is the only plan out there that helps save Medicare. Democrats oppose it. Fine. But, if they have a better way to save Medicare, what are they waiting for to show us? What is their plan to save Medicare?" (Marco Rubio, 5/26/11)

In 2011, Ryan Proposed Implementing A Medicare Premium Support Plan, Oftentimes Described A Privatized Voucher System For Medicare. "If implemented, the government would no longer pay doctors to treat Medicare beneficiaries. Instead, beneficiaries would buy their own private insurance plans, and the government would give people money to pay to buy health plans from an approved list. Everyone over 55 would be grandfathered into the current Medicare system. So if you're of Medicare age right now, nothing would change if Ryan's 2011 plan became law tomorrow. That's the crux of what Ryan proposed in 2011-and it was his 2011 plan that Ryan stamped as the signature policy proposal of his time in Congress. It signified the boldest change in his 2011 "Path to Prosperity" budget outline, and Ryan promoted it and defended it relentlessly against critics, including the president. Since then, Ryan and Wyden made major revisions, including a provision like Democrats' "public option," where seniors could opt out of Ryan's most basic change altogether, enrolling in Medicare as a fee-for-service program that would continue to pay directly for care. The Ryan-Wyden plan of December 2011, the basis for what Ryan included in his 2012 budget plan, differs widely in key areas from the spring-2011 iteration of Ryan's plan-the version for which he became known. Critics have called Ryan's 2011 proposal the "end of Medicare as we know it," and that's true. Until now, Medicare has operated as a "fee-for-service" system; under Ryan's plan, it would operate more like a voucher system, although Ryan and his aides have resisted this term. Medicare would cease to pay for health services directly, instead operating as a board that approves a menu of health plans for public sale and doles out predetermined lumps of money to people enrolled in Medicare, to help them buy those plans." (ABC News, 8/11/12)

Rubio, In 2014: "I Propose We Transition To A Premium-Support System Like The Bipartisan One Proposed By Representative Paul Ryan And Senator Ron Wyden, Which Would Give Seniors A Generous But Fixed Amount Of Money With Which To Purchase Health Insurance From Either Medicare Or A Private Provider." "Our third and final goal is also the most difficult, and that is saving Medicare. When it comes to a broad and comprehensive Medicare reform plan, we must dramatically expand health-care choices for seniors, spur competition in the marketplace, and extend the solvency of the Medicare trust fund — all while making sure traditional Medicare remains an option. To do so, I propose we transition to a premium-support system like the bipartisan one proposed by Representative Paul Ryan and Senator Ron Wyden, which would give seniors a generous but fixed amount of money with which to purchase health insurance from either Medicare or a private provider. The choice would be theirs to make. All of these ideas would make meaningful strides toward saving Social

Security and Medicare for future generations. If ever there was an issue worthy of both parties coming together to act for the good of the country, preserving a secure retirement for 21st-century seniors is that issue. I am eager to work with anyone — Republican or Democrat — who will work in good faith on these reforms. As the trustees report this week has shown us, there can be no excuses for delay. The time for political games has passed. So let's act together today to save these vital programs and ensure a secure retirement for ourselves, our children, and all the generations that follow." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, National Review, 8/5/14)

"Rubio Voted For The Ryan Budgets That Included Reductions In Future Medicare Spending. The Burden Would Have Fallen On Beneficiaries To Pay More Out Of Pocket." "As for Medicare, he called for a "premium support system" that would give seniors a fixed amount of money to purchase insurance from Medicare or a private provider. That was similar to a plan by U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis. Rubio voted for the Ryan budgets that included reductions in future Medicare spending. The burden would have fallen on beneficiaries to pay more out of pocket." (Politifact, 9/16/16)

Medicare Reform – Support (Premium Support Proposal)

Rubio, In 2015, On Medicare Reforms: "Future Generations Should Be Transitioned Into A Premium Support System. A Premium Support Model Will Empower Seniors With Choice And Market Competition Just Like Medicare Advantage And Medicare Part D Already Do." "Third, I will take up the difficult work of saving and strengthening Medicare and Medicaid by placing them on fiscally-sustainable paths. Without reforms, these programs will eventually run out of money. We must move Medicaid into a per-capita block grant system, preserving funding for its recipients while freeing states from Washington mandates. While current seniors on Medicare, like my mother, should see no changes to the program, future generations should be transitioned into a premium support system. A premium support model will empower seniors with choice and market competition just like Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D already do. While other measures may be necessary to undo the damage done by ObamaCare, I believe these three concepts are the core of a plan to lower costs and put patients and families back in control of their healthcare decisions. Unlike ObamaCare, my reforms will not be forced through Congress in the dark of night without accountability. They will not stretch the Constitution to its breaking point or rely on questionable Supreme Court decisions to survive. And, perhaps most importantly, they will not raise taxes on the American people. ObamaCare's failures should be all the proof Washington needs that the time has come for a new direction—one that empowers the American consumer, expands choices, and reduces the role of the federal government in healthcare. It's time to set a new precedent in Washington by sending a new president to Washington. I believe I have the experience and vision necessary to improve our healthcare system and make this the next American century." (Marco Rubio, *Politico*, 8/17/15)

Social Security Reform – Support (Privatization And Retirement Age Increase)

In 2010, Rubio Called For Increasing The Retirement Age For Social Security And Allowing For Partial Privatization Of The System. "MARCO RUBIO (R-FL), NOMINEE FOR U.S. SENATE: I do think that the retirement age issue is going to have to be confronted at

some point as part of a measure to reform Social Security. The other is giving people the option of taking some of their Social Security money, at least a portion thereof, and investing in an alternative to the Social Security system itself. UNIDENTIFIED MALE: But you've had people that, you know, have made terrible mistakes and lost everything in their 401(k). Wouldn't they do the same thing with Social Security? RUBIO: Potentially. But it's their money." (NBC News, 10/1/10)

In 2010, Rubio Acknowledged Increasing The Retirement Age As A Potential Measure To Rescue Social Security. "Which leads to Job One: To get spending under control in Washington, Mr. Rubio would support a constitutional amendment to balance the budget, something Florida already has in place. "I don't care whether Republicans or Democrats are in charge," he says. "If you allow politicians to spend money, they'll do it." He also favors freezing discretionary spending. It's a crude device and ducks the hard work of setting priorities, but "some level of discretionary spending freeze" sends "a powerful signal to our economy and the world that America is serious." Entitlement reform is next. "I know . . . people don't like to talk about it," but Mr. Rubio says the country has to look at changing the Social Security system for people who are 10 or more years away from retirement age. "Privatization of the accounts has come and gone," he says. "There are other alternatives, such as [raising] the retirement age, how you adjust payments in the future, 'need' measures, et cetera." Part and parcel is authoring a new tax code "that creates a competitive environment in America." This means lowering rates on capital gains and reducing the corporate tax rate from 35% to at most 25%, which Mr. Rubio notes is the European average. "Even the president admitted the corporate tax rate is too high," he says. What Mr. Rubio is talking about is an economic confidence agenda to convince Americans and the world that this country isn't incapable of dealing with its debts except through inflation and job-killing tax hikes. "The bottom line," he says, "is that jobs in America are created by people who . . . decide to start a business or expand an existing business." They will do so only if allowed to keep what they earn and don't have a "big target on their back for the government to come after them for higher taxes.'" (*The Wall Street Journal*, 3/13/10)

- **Politifact Has Noted That In 2010 Rubio Supported Gradually Increasing The Retirement Age For His Generation And Younger.** "Specifically, Rubio said in 2010 that he was open to raising the retirement age. "Privatization of the accounts has come and gone, (but) there are other alternatives, such as (raising) the retirement age, how you adjust payments in the future, 'need' measures, et cetera." The retirement age came up again during a Fox News Sunday debate. Host Chris Wallace asked Rubio if he would raise the retirement age. "I think that has to be on the table. That's got to be part of the solution. The retirement age that gradually increases for people of my generation, I think has got to be part of ...," Rubio said before getting cut off." (Politifact, 9/16/16)
- **"In 2014, Rubio Gave A Speech At The National Press Club In Which He Again Said Inaction Would Lead To Bankruptcy. Rubio Called To "Gradually Increase The Retirement Age For Future Retirees To Account For The Rise In Life Expectancy.'"** "The Senate Majority PAC's ad cites Rubio's comments from 2011. In March 2011, Rubio voted for a House-passed measure to cut about $61 billion from the budget through the end of the year. "While reducing discretionary spending is an important goal, Washington is devoting a disproportionate amount of time to a tiny slice

of the budget while ignoring the fact that continued inaction on saving Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid is bankrupting our country," Rubio said in a press release. In 2014, Rubio gave a speech at the National Press Club in which he again said inaction would lead to bankruptcy. Rubio called to "gradually increase the retirement age for future retirees to account for the rise in life expectancy.'" (Politifact, 9/16/16)

- **Rubio, In 2014: "My Second Goal Is To Enact Reforms That Save Social Security For Future Generations. The First Step Is To Gradually Increase The Retirement Age Without Touching It For Retired Americans And Those Nearing Retirement."** "My second goal is to enact reforms that save Social Security for future generations. The first step is to gradually increase the retirement age without touching it for retired Americans and those nearing retirement. We now have a record number of Social Security beneficiaries, and they are living another five to ten years longer than Social Security's earliest recipients. Yet in the past 80 years, Congress has increased the retirement age by only two years." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, National Review, 8/5/14)

- **In 2016, Rubio Again Called For Raising The Retirement Age For Younger Workers.** "While running for president in 2016, Rubio again called for reducing the debt by making changes to Social Security and Medicare. At a March debate in Miami, Rubio reiterated his stance about raising the retirement age but not for those who are 55 or older. "Social Security will go bankrupt, and it will bankrupt the country with it," he said. "So what it will require is people younger, like myself, people that are 30 years away from retirement, to accept that our Social Security is going to work differently than it did for my parents." While running for re-election, Rubio reiterated the same proposals for Social Security. "Marco's own mother relies on Social Security as her sole source of income," Rubio spokesman Michael Ahrens said. "Marco would never do anything to hurt his mother or the millions of Florida seniors who depend on Social Security and Medicare, and he'll continue to fight to strengthen the programs for future generations." His campaign staff also point to previous PolitiFact analysis that said that reining in the spending growth of a program like Medicare wasn't the same as cutting it." (Politifact, 9/16/16)

Politifact Has Noted That In 2010 Rubio Was Open To Essentially Cutting COLA Adjustments For Future Social Security Beneficiaries. "Rubio was asked if he would support changing cost-of-living adjustments for Social Security beneficiaries. "I think all of that has to be on the table, including the way we index increases in cost of living. All of these issues have to be on the table," Rubio said. "They have to be options that I would be open to." Rubio consistently said that while he wouldn't make changes for those 55 and older, younger people such as himself (he was 39 at the time) would have to accept changes." (Politifact, 9/16/16)

In 2014, Rubio Called For Cutting Initial Social Security Benefits For Higher-Earning Workers. "We also need to look at how we calculate initial benefits. The answer is to reduce the growth of benefits for upper-income seniors while making the program even stronger for lower-income seniors. This isn't a cut, it's simply a reduction in how fast the benefit will increase for wealthier retirees who rely less on Social Security. (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, National Review, 8/5/14)

Child Tax Credit – Expansion

In 2015, Rubio Proposed A Dramatic Expansion Of The Child Tax Credit Estimated To Cost $1.7 Trillion Over Ten Years. "Rubio's tax plan includes creating a new, partially refundable child tax credit of up to $2,500 per child. It is meant to offset income and payroll taxes and is considerably larger than the $1,000 credit that is currently available. Refundable tax credits help people at the lower end of the income scale, in that people who are too poor to pay any income tax can get money back from the government. Paul's campaign referred us to a March 2015 analysis by the nonpartisan Tax Foundation of a tax plan proposed in the Senate by Rubio and U.S. Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah. That analysis estimated the credit would result in a loss of tax revenue of about $170 billion per year. That's the equivalent of $1.7 trillion over 10 years -- 10 years being a common time frame for federal budget planning. But it's worth noting that Paul didn't say 10 years in making his claim. We'll note that, unlike the original Rubio-Lee plan, Rubio as a candidate is proposing that the credit would be phased out at higher income levels -- beginning at $150,000 for an individual and $300,000 for a family. That would mean the lost revenue would be something less than $1.7 trillion over 10 years, but still well above $1 trillion, said Kyle Pomerleau, director of federal projects at the Tax Foundation, a free market-oriented think tank. That's because relatively few people at the higher incomes have children and would be eligible for the tax credits, he told us. In other words, the tax credit is expensive, Pomerlau said, because "it's large and nearly universal for families." The Tax Policy Center, a joint venture of the Urban Institute and Brookings Institution, also did an estimate of the original tax credit proposal and came up with a figure similar to that of the Tax Foundation -- an estimated loss of nearly $1.58 trillion in tax revenue over 10 years. Roberton Williams, a fellow at the Tax Policy Center, told us the center hasn't analyzed Rubio's current proposal. But he said a loss of $1 trillion in tax revenue over 10 years is a fair estimate." (Politifact, 11/12/15)

Conservative Budgets

In 2013, Rubio Voted Nay On The Paul Amendment To SCR 8, A Conservative Budget Substitute. (Paul Amdt To SCR 8, Failed (18 - 81), United States Senate, 3/22/13, Rubio Voted Nay)

- NOTE: "In the nature of a substitute." (Paul Amdt To SCR 8)

ACU: The Paul Amendment To SCR 8 "Replaced A Budget That Raises Taxes To Increase Spending With A Bill That Balances The Budget In Four Years, Returns Discretionary Spending To 2008 Levels, Replaces Welfare Programs With Block Grants To The States, Reforms Entitlement Programs And Eliminates Capital Gains As Well As Estate And Gift Taxes." "The Paul amendment to the budget bill would have replaced a budget that raises taxes to increase spending with a bill that balances the budget in four years, returns discretionary spending to 2008 levels, replaces welfare programs with block grants to the states, reforms entitlement programs and eliminates capital gains as well as estate and gift taxes." (American Conservative Union)

The American Conservative Union "Supports These Broad Government Reforms And Supported This Amendment." "ACU supports these broad government reforms and supported this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on March 22, 2013, by a vote of 18-81." (American Conservative Union)

In 2021, Rubio Voted Nay On The Paul Amendment To SCR 5, Which Is A Conservative Alternate Budget. (Paul Amdt To SCR 5, Failed (29 - 71), United States Senate, 2/4/21, Rubio Voted Nay)

- NOTE: "In the nature of a substitute." (Paul Amdt To SCR 5)

ACU: The Paul Amendment To SCR 5 "Implements The "Three Penny Plan" Federal Budget… The Federal Budget Will Be Balanced Within Five Years By Cutting The Budget By 3 Pennies On The Dollar Each Year Over The Next Five Years". "The Sen. Rand Paul (ACUF Lifetime 97%) amendment #1 to the congressional budget implements the "Three Penny Plan" federal budget. Under the plan, the federal budget will be balanced within five years by cutting the budget by 3 pennies on the dollar each year over the next five years, at which point spending increases are then limited to 2 percent per year." (American Conservative Union)

The American Conservative Union "Supports Restoring Fiscal Sanity To A Congress That Continually Grows Deficit Spending And Has Plunged Our Nation Into Nearly $30 Trillion In Debt And Supported This Amendment." "ACU supports restoring fiscal sanity to a Congress that continually grows deficit spending and has plunged our nation into nearly $30 trillion in debt and supported this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on February 4, 2021 by a vote of 29-71." (American Conservative Union)

Trade

Overall – Support For Free Trade And Flip-Flop

VIDEO: In 2011, Rubio Noted "I Think One Of The Great Things That Will Help Us Grow Our Economy In The Years To Come Is Further Free Trade"; Rubio Further Noted His Support For Free Trade Agreements With South Korea, Panama, And Colombia. "Mr. Rubio: Thank you Mr. President and members. We've had this important conversation this week about trade policy in the United States. It's a very important one. Clearly, I think one of the great things that will help us grow our economy in the years to come is further free trade. We have these pending free trade agreements, which mostly everyone I run into says they're in favor of, including the President. The one with South Korea, the one with Panama, the one with Colombia, there's been a prerequisite put in place by those in charge here in this chamber and that is that we deal with the TAA issues. And so that's why we're on this issue today. They have clearly been linked, the issue of free trade and the issue of this TAA law, so that's why we're on that today. And on that line, let me talk a little bit about the free trade agreements for a minute because we're continuing to wait for them to be sent down to us. These agreements would increase U.S. exports by billions of dollars and create jobs here in the United States and about, the numbers that are out there, exports are about $12 billion annually, for example. Adding about $14 billion to the U.S. economy. These are real numbers. The South Korea agreement alone, for example, is estimated could add as many as 70,000 American jobs. As I said earlier, these benefits are not being realized because the President has not yet submitted these for approval to this body or to the Congress. And so the debate we're having today is really not a new one. In fact, the Trade Adjustment Agreement, or TAA, has been a policy of the United States, for better or for worse, since the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. Interestingly, this policy was first actually proposed by Senator John F. Kennedy. When he introduced it and aptly titled it the Trade

Adjustment Act. In fact, the initial goal was to respond to perceived effects of trade policies. In essence, you enter into a trade policy, like a free trade agreement, with another country. American workers may lose their job in the short term, but you create a fund to help them transition to what you hope will be the new jobs being created by free trade. As you create this new relationship with new countries and new economies, the effect of it, and quite frankly it has been the effect, is that while some jobs may be lost those jobs are replaced with new opportunities and new jobs. And in the process of that transition, between the job you once had and the job you hope to have here in the future as a product of free trade, you create this fund to help workers adjust from point a to point b. That was the purpose of it and has been the purpose of it." (YouTube, 9/22/11)

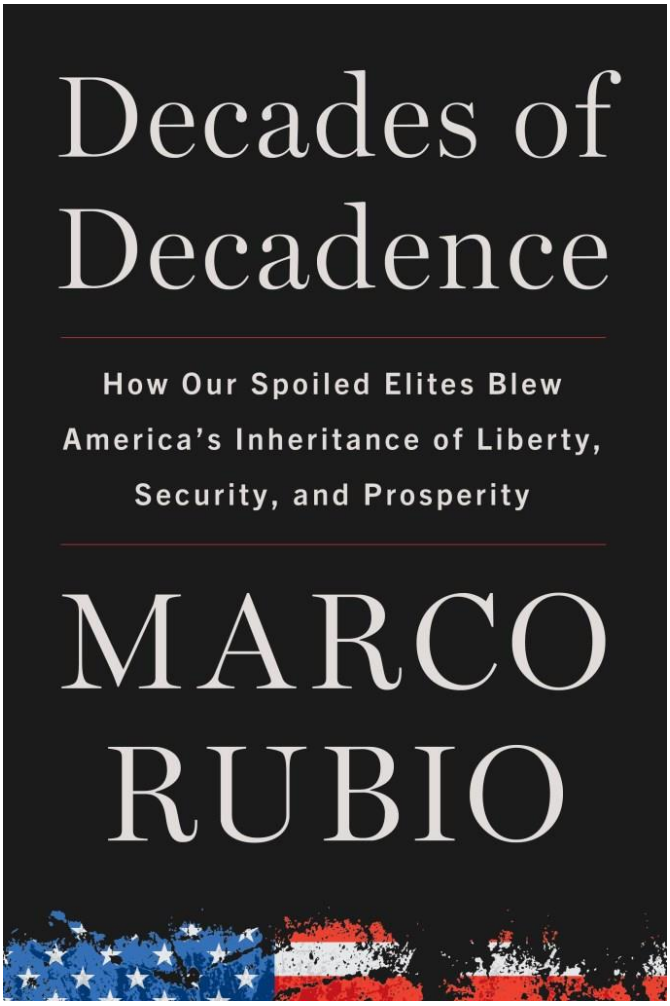


(YouTube, 9/22/11)

- **In 2015, Club For Growth President David McIntosh Noted Rubio "Has A Consistent Record Of Supporting Policies Like Free Trade..."** "The first major test for the 2016 Republican presidential candidates is Thursday. The 2016 GOP field is the most pro-growth in recent history. There are a number of qualified candidates who have put forth ideas and a vision for restoring the economic growth and freedom our country so desperately needs after suffering for eight long and bleak years under Barack Obama's feckless leadership. These ideas include reducing the size of government, cutting taxes, repealing and replacing Obamacare, free market reforms, and moving the country forward with free trade. Here is our assessment of the major candidates going into the Fox debate. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul: The Gold Standard U.S. Sens. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul are "the real deal" candidates, the gold standard of the race. Sen. Cruz particularly excels when it comes to stopping job-crippling regulations and promoting pro-growth energy exploration. He's also shown extraordinary determination in the fight against Obamacare. Sen. Rubio has drafted a pro-growth tax cut and reform plan that would fundamentally reform the tax code and the entitlement

state. He also has a consistent record of supporting policies like free trade and tort reform, and he supports common sense regulatory reforms." (David McIntosh, Op-Ed, *USA Today*, 8/5/15)

Recently, In His 2023 Book 'Decades Of Decadence,' Rubio Now Repudiates And Condemns The Globalist Free Trade Regime He Once Supported. "For decades now, since our elites began to believe that global market integration was an inherent good that should take precedence over all else — particularly patriotism, national unity, and the welfare of American workers — this country has prioritized the importation of cheap labor. The 1990s were dominated by stories of local factories shutting down in Pennsylvania and Ohio, only to reopen weeks later in Mexico or China. Offshoring American jobs made headlines and prompted outcry from politicians, but otherwise continued apace even as our communities were hollowed out. But not every business could be exported, which meant Wall Street simply figured out how to import cheap labor, much of it coming from illegal immigrants. This was a slower, more subtle process. Sure, some politicians made a big deal about "jobs Americans wouldn't do," but otherwise the only outcry came from workers who found their wages stalled, benefits cut, and hours slashed until they could be replaced by someone willing to work more hours for less. More often than not, it is about jobs Wall Street doesn't want Americans to do because hiring Americans would require higher wages and better working conditions. To them, it is better to import cheap labor and buy off Americans with cash welfare programs provided by the government. What's more, many sought to rationalize the entire process in glowing, nonexploitative terms. They were convinced that the end of history made us all "citizens of the world." Why should jobs in America be reserved for Americans if borders don't matter? In a global economy, the source of the labor doesn't matter, so long as the job gets done. That policy consensus accelerated the erosion of national identity and patriotism." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *New York Post*, 6/10/13; Excerpt From 'Decades Of Decadence')


Decades of Decadence
How Our Spoiled Elites Blew America's Inheritance of Liberty, Security, and Prosperity
MARCO RUBIO

(Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *New York Post*, 6/10/13; Excerpt From 'Decades Of Decadence')

Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) – Support And Flip-Flop

In 2015, Rubio Strongly Backed The TPP Declaring It "Will Further Our Strategic Goals In Asia And Increase Prosperity At Home. It Will Advance Economic Liberty And Unleash Free-Market Forces In The World's Most Dynamic Region." "Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's visit to the United States this week highlights the potential of a new age of peace and prosperity in Asia. Under his leadership, Japan is revising its defense policies to become a more robust contributor to security in East Asia, working with partners to ensure that territorial disputes are resolved through the rule of law, and attempting to finalize the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact. These goals are shared by the United States and should have our full support. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. From a starting point of bitter enemies dealing with the fallout from millions of deaths and immense destruction, the modern U.S.-Japan relationship has blossomed into one of America's strongest alliances in the world. Our alliance with Japan is key to a 21st-century Asia free and at peace. There are three pillars to an Asia policy for a new American century. The first is ensuring that we maintain U.S. and allied defense capabilities that can resist the coercion or domination of Asia by an increasingly assertive and belligerent China. The second is an Asian-Pacific economy governed

by free-market principles. And the third is the settling of disputes based on the rule of law, not usurpation of land, military expansionism and conflict. The U.S.-Japan alliance is at the center of all three pillars. On defense, with revised U.S.-Japan defense guidelines and Prime Minister Abe's efforts to allow Japanese forces to participate in "collective self-defense" (coming to the aid of U.S. forces under fire, for example), Japan will be a more equal partner in our alliance. U.S and Japanese forces will work more closely together to build a ballistic-missile-defense system to protect us from threats posed by North Korea's rogue regime and other bad actors. We will also work together to closely monitor and respond to Chinese aggression in the South China Sea, where busy shipping lanes are vital to our security and prosperity. The U.S. will further work with Japan to help our partners in Southeast Asia defend their territorial waters. As Prime Minister Abe has said, "Japan will offer its utmost support for the efforts of the countries of Asean"—the Association of Southeast Asian Nations—"as they work to ensure the security of the seas and the skies, and thoroughly maintain freedom of navigation and freedom of over flight." Japan understands the critical role that a strong defense plays in supporting the freedom of nations to conduct peaceful commerce and further their economic growth. To this end, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), discussed between President Obama and Prime Minister Abe this week, will further our strategic goals in Asia and increase prosperity at home. It will advance economic liberty and unleash free-market forces in the world's most dynamic region. It will create the opportunity for emerging economies to become the next "tigers" of Asia and enhance linkages between nations in the Western Hemisphere and East Asia." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 4/29/15)

- **Rubio: "We Must Rebuild Our Own Military Capabilities, Conclude And Pass TPP, And Renew Our Support For Freedom And The Rule Of Law In Asia."** "We are now faced with consequential decisions about the future of Asia and the postwar free-market order that has sustained peace and prosperity in the region. But we also have significant opportunities. To take advantage of them, we must rebuild our own military capabilities, conclude and pass TPP, and renew our support for freedom and the rule of law in Asia. Too often over the past six years, U.S. leaders have spoken of their attention to Asia but failed to back up the rhetoric with action." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 4/29/15)

- **"While Mr. Rubio Did Not Vote On The Agreement, He Indicated After It Was Announced That He Was Inclined To Vote For It. He Has Said That The United States Risks Locking Itself Out Of Global Trade If It Is Not More Open."** (*The New York Times*, 2016)

Rubio, In 2015: "As President, I Would Respond Not Through Aggressive Retaliation, Which Would Hurt The U.S. As Much As China, But By Greater Commitment And Firmer Insistence On Free Markets And Free Trade. This Means Immediately Moving Forward With The Trans-Pacific Partnership And Other Trade Agreements." "My second goal is protecting the U.S. economy. For years, China has subsidized exports, devalued its currency, restricted imports and stolen technology on a massive scale. As president, I would respond not through aggressive retaliation, which would hurt the U.S. as much as China, but by greater commitment and firmer insistence on free markets and free trade. This means immediately moving forward with the Trans-Pacific Partnership and other trade agreements. I

will also recognize that in the 21st century, national and economic security both depend on cybersecurity. No longer will China hack U.S. corporate or government servers with ease and without consequence." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/27/15)

By September 2016, Rubio Backed Off His Explicit Support For TPP But Noted That He Would Still "Love To Have A Free Trade Agreement With The Asia-Pacific Region." "Of the Republicans who are running in the most closely watched Senate races this cycle, just two have publicly embraced the controversial trade deal: John McCain of Arizona — who warned that the United States' future in Asia hinges on the TPP — and Mark Kirk of Illinois. One other Republican, Chuck Grassley of Iowa, is favorable toward TPP's agriculture provisions but won't weigh in on the other parts. Back in April 2015, Rubio wrote an op-ed in t T he Wall Street Journal and urged passage of TPP, which would "further our strategic goals in Asia and increase prosperity at home." In an interview with POLITICO this week, Rubio said he is still evaluating the trade deal but noted that he was "disappointed" with results of a report from the International Trade Commission that gauged the TPP's economic impact. Pressed on whether his concerns about the TPP constitute a reversal, Rubio responded, "How can it be? You can't endorse a deal that isn't written yet." "The TPP as a concept is something I support. I'd love to have a free trade agreement with the Asia-Pacific region. But it has to be the right deal," Rubio said. "Just like I support home ownership, but it has to be under the right terms.'" (*Politico*, 9/22/16)

<u>Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) – Support</u>

Rubio, In 2015: "Concluding TPP Will Require The Passage Of Trade Promotion Authority By The Congress." "Concluding TPP will require the passage of Trade Promotion Authority by the Congress. Our foreign trading partners like Japan need to have confidence that American presidents can deliver on free trade. Once we pass Trade Promotion Authority we can finish negotiating a pact that will help build a network of Pacific economies based on competition, the rule of law and free markets." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 4/29/15)

In May 2015, Rubio Noted It Was "More Important Than Ever That Congress Give The President Trade Promotion Authority So That He Can Finalize The Trans-Pacific Partnership And The Trans-Atlantic Trade And Investment Partnership." "Rubio has been hedging for months, saying in January that he would wait for a May report from the International Trade Commission. Then he bought more time. His new comments are the most clear sign yet of a shift. TPP became a political issue in the presidential primary, bashed by Trump and Democrat Bernie Sanders, who forced Hillary Clinton to reverse her support. Rubio's Democratic U.S. Senate rival, Patrick Murphy, announced his opposition last October. Breitbart News in June 2015 accused Rubio of being the "deciding vote" for TPP fast-track authority "without even reading" the deal. Rubio's office countered that he had. Indeed, Rubio has been nothing but supportive, saying during a May 2015 speech at the Council on Foreign Relations — his first foreign policy address as a presidential candidate — that it was "more important than ever that Congress give the president trade promotion authority so that he can finalize the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership." A month before, Rubio praised the deal in a piece for the Wall Street Journal as a way to "further our strategic goals in Asia and increase prosperity at home. … It will create the opportunity for emerging economies to

become the next 'tigers' of Asia and enhance linkages between nations in the Western Hemisphere and East Asia.'" (*Tampa Bay Times*, 8/26/16)

In June 2015, Breitbart Noted That Rubio Cast The Deciding Vote In Favor Of TPA – Allowing For Fast-Tracking Of Free Trade Deals Such As TPP. "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) cast the deciding vote for Obamatrade on Tuesday as it squeeked through the U.S. Senate 60-37, and his Senate office is still outright refusing to answer whether he even knew what he was voting on. Rubio, a Republican presidential candidate, was the deciding vote necessary for the U.S. Senate to clear the final 60-vote threshold and eventually, later this week, send to President Barack Obama's desk the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) bill that would fast-track at least three highly secretive trade deals that Obama has been negotiating for years. TPA will, now that it's going to pass, effectively ensure the congressional approval of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) and Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP). The text of the TiSA and T-TIP agreements is currently entirely secretive, even to lawmakers on Capitol Hill and their staffs, though WikiLeaks did uncover several TiSA documents that leaked and prove the deal would surrender congressional power over U.S. immigration policy to the executive branch and perhaps to a newly created transnational entity. The TPP text for the Pacific Rim trade deal that Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL) notes would give the Sultan of Brunei—who has implemented Sharia Law in his nation and banned Christmas, literally—an "equal vote to that of the United States," on the other hand, is available for members of Congress to read. The only catch is they have to go to a secret room inside the Capitol basement for classified readings to read it in person, they can't take notes, and only their staffers with enough high enough security clearances can go with them to read it—and their staff can't go without them. Before the Senate voted on TPA to fast track these deals the first time back in May, Breitbart News asked every Senate Republican if they read the text of the TPP before voting to fast-track it. Only a handful said they did. Sens. Rand Paul (R-KY), Ted Cruz (R-TX), Jeff Sessions (R-AL), James Lankford (R-OK) and Mike Lee (R-UT) went to go read it. Rubio, on the other hand, was one of many who has consistently and repeatedly refused to answer whether he read the deal text. His office refuse to answer yet again on Tuesday whether he went to go read it before the first time he voted for TPA or before the second time he did—on Tuesday's cloture vote—and that means he's again choosing to give the public impression he did not read the text of the deal before he voted to fast track it through Congress. This could have significant implications for Rubio on the campaign trail as he seeks the Republican nomination for the presidency as activists in early states are furious with his decision to support Obamatrade when it's clear he doesn't know what he's talking about. New Hampshire conservative and Merrimack Councilman Bill Boyd, who's endorsed Paul for president, told Breitbart News while on a recent reporting trip to New Hampshire that he's upset that Rubio didn't read the deal before he voted to fast-track it." (Breitbart, 6/23/15)

Tariffs

In 2018, Rubio Voted Yea On HR 5895, Which Called For Congressional Approval Of National Security Tariffs. (HR 5895, Passed (88 - 11), United States Senate, 7/11/18, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

July 11, 2018	Nonbinding motion calling for congressional approval of national security tariffs (88-11)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

In July 2018, Rubio Voted Yea On A Motion To Reaffirm The Need For Congressional Approval Of Section 232 Determinations. (Rubio Supported The Motion, Motion Supported (88-11) Congressional Journal, 7/11/18)

Mr. TOOMEY. Madam President, if there is any time remaining, let me just stress that this vote is a vote to move in the direction of restoring to Congress our constitutional authority and, ultimately, if we do that right, to revisiting the misuse of the section 232 provisions of our trade law, which is applying inappropriate tariffs on steel and aluminum from our allies and close friends.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes.

(Congressional Journal, 7/11/18)

Roberts
Rounds
Rubio
Sanders
Sasse

(Congressional Journal, 7/11/18)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

July 11, 2018	Nonbinding motion calling for congressional approval of national security tariffs (88-11)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Labor

Participation In A Union Strike

In His 2012 Memoir, Rubio Noted Having Participated In His Dad's Union Strike At Age 13. "In 1984, the Culinary Workers Union went on strike. I went with my father to the union hall. The strike became my new obsession. I never grasped all the issues involved, but understood generally that the strikers were just asking to be treated fairly. They had worked hard to help make the hotels profitable, and were entitled to better compensation and benefits. I was

excited to be part of the cause & join forces with striking workers from many hotels. At the height of the strike, it seemed all the kid at my school had a parent on the picket line. I became a committed union activist. I got to spend time with my father. I thought it was nothing but fun. My father was older than most of the strikers. Eventually, our small savings were gone & the union checks stopped coming. Not long after, he informed me he was going back to work. I accused him of selling out and called him a scab. It hurt him, and I'm ashamed of it. He had had no choice. He returned to work for a smaller salary and fewer benefits." (An American Son, by Marco Rubio, p. 54-55 Jun 19, 2012)

Disaster Aid

Hurricane Sandy Aid – Oppose

In 2012, Rubio Voted Against The Larger Proposals For Hurricane Sandy Aid. "Hurrianne Sandy made landfall Oct. 29, 2012, and devastated portions of the East Coast, including New York and New Jersey. The path to passing a relief package was slower than after Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana and Mississippi in 2005. Following Hurricane Sandy, President Barack Obama had just been elected to a second term and conservative Republicans elected in a tea party wave in 2010, and then in 2012, were looking for ways to curb spending. On Dec. 7, Obama requested $60.4 billion in emergency appropriations. Three weeks later, the Democratic-led Senate voted 62-32 to approve it, with Rubio voting against. Twelve Republicans joined the Democrats in voting for the bill. Republicans then countered with a stripped-down alternative of $24 billion, which Rubio supported but which failed on a party-line vote. Rubio said he voted against the larger bill because it contained "unrelated pork." ("Pork" or "pork barrel" spending is government spending for localized projects secured primarily or solely for bringing money to political representatives' districts.) There was funding for many things in the $60.4 billion package, including money for a declared fishery disaster in Alaska, Ellis said. But nearly everything had some relationship to a disaster — not only Sandy — although some were more tenuous than others. "The question is did it have to be funded in an emergency supplemental" meaning it would allow lawmakers to evade budget caps, Ellis said. "And the question for Sen. Rubio and every other senator, is how much is too much extra stuff and what is the alternative." Then-House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, sought to divide the relief funding. FEMA warned that it would run out of money in January if Congress didn't provide additional borrowing authority to pay claims. The first vote, a $9.7 billion measure, passed the House on Jan. 4. DeSantis, a newly sworn-in congressman, was one of 67 House Republicans who voted against the bill. DeSantis said he sympathized with victims and that those with flood insurance should have their claims paid. But he said that "allowing the program to increase its debt by another $9.7 billion with no plan to offset the spending with cuts elsewhere is not fiscally responsible." The funding passed the Senate in a voice vote, in which individual senators' votes are not recorded. Rubio spokesman Alex Conant told the Tampa Bay Times that Rubio supported it, calling it a "clean" appropriation. Obama signed the measure into law. The second part of the disaster relief, a bill for $50.5 billion, passed the Senate Jan. 28, 2013, 62-36 largely along party lines. Rubio voted against the bill and DeSantis voted against the measure that passed in the House. Obama signed it into law." (Politifact, 9/30/22)

Additional State And Local Issues

Additional Departures From Fiscal Conservatism – Taxes And Spending

During His Early Florida State Legislative Tenure, Rubio "Wasn't Particularly Passionate About Cutting Spending. In His First Three Years, He Supported Adding A $4 Surcharge To Cruise Tickets To Fund A Marlins Stadium And A $1.2 Million Earmark To Build New Bike Paths In His District." "Back then, he was hardly the scorching conservative who would later woo Tea Partiers nationwide. Before the year's session, he told the Herald he'd focus on supporting early education and community policing. And he wasn't particularly passionate about cutting spending. In his first three years, he supported adding a $4 surcharge to cruise tickets to fund a Marlins stadium and a $1.2 million earmark to build new bike paths in his district. "In his first years, Marco was not this red-meat, Tea Party, let's-abolish-the-government guy you're seeing on the trail now," Sen. Steve Geller says. "His politics didn't shift that way until he became the speaker-designate.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

While Serving In The Florida Legislature, Rubio Is Known To Have Requested Tens Of Millions Of Dollars In Earmarks With Rubio Requesting $43 Million Worth In 2002 Alone. "Rubio served in the Florida House of Representatives from 2000-2008, the last two years as House speaker. During his U.S. Senate campaign, Rubio was criticized by independent candidate Gov. Charlie Crist for requesting millions of dollars in pork projects, which Crist said he had to veto. We've rated two specific claims when it comes to Rubio and earmarks before -- we called a claim that he supported $800,000 to replace the turf at a field where he played flag football Half True and a claim that he tried to insert $1.5 milllion into the budget for a rowing institute Pants on Fire! Florida's version of the earmark was something called a Community Budget Issue Request -- a budget request legislators made for local projects. Legislators had to file their request ahead of the budget planning process and attach their name to every request. The Legislature stopped the practice in 2009, the year after Rubio left office. In 2002, Rubio's third year, the Florida House requested $1.5 billion in Community Budget Issue Requests, according to data kept by the state. To put that in perspective, the state budget that Gov. Jeb Bush signed that year totaled $50 billion, and legislators had been warned of a tight budget. (They actually were summoned back to Tallahassee to slash $1 billion from the budget in December 2001 to keep the state from going in the red.) Rubio's member budget requests for 2002 remain archived on a state website, which confirms Schale's statement. Rubio requested funding for 37 projects totalling $43,697,787. Here's the complete list. • $7.67 million, requested by Jackson Health System, to provide inpatient and outpatient health care services to people with HIV/AIDS, including medications, psycho-social counseling, education and case management. • $5 million, requested by Miami-Dade County, for an elevated, automated people-mover system connecting three elevated stations in front of the Miami International Airport passenger terminal with the planned Miami Intermodal Center. • $5 million, requested by Miami-Dade County Empowerment Trust, for a federally designated "empowerment zone" that targets county, state, and federal resources to stimulate economic development in distressed, low-income areas. • $2.25 million, requested by the city of Miami Springs, to eliminate recurring flood conditions through stormwater drainage improvements. • $2 million, requested by the Achievement & Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., for ARC Broward Inc., to provide intensive therapeutic &

behavioral intervention for children aged 5-12 with severe autism or related disorders. • $1.5 million, requested by the South Florida Water Management District, for construction to permanently mitigate the recurring flood threat. • $1.5 million, requested by the city of West Miami, to reduce a wastewater collection system budget deficit. • $1.3 million, requested by the city of South Miami, to complete an upgrade to the city's stormwater drainage system to eliminate or reduce pollutants from the direct discharge of stormwater runoff and prevent local flooding. • $1.25 million, requested by the city of West Miami, for drainage improvements. • $1.2 million, requested by the city of South Miami, to provide high-quality municipal water and fire protection in the city. • $1.2 million by the city of Miami Springs, to relocate utilities to satisfy state DOT objectives at certain intersections. • $1.18 million, requested by Jackson Health System, for residential care for adjudicated substance abusing adolescents, including physician care, social work, nursing, psychology, medications and education. • $1 million, requested by the University of Miami School of Medicine for programs in spinal cord injury and brain research; to develop improved rehabilitation technologies; protect and prevent nervous system damage; and promote regeneration and recovery of function. • $1 million, requested by the city of Miami Springs, to eliminate infiltration in an existing wastewater treatment system. • Two separate $1 million community budget issues, both requested by Miami-Dade County, to provide hot evening and weekend meals to elderly residents of Miami-Dade County who are assessed as "high risk" or in danger of malnutrition. • $900,000, requested by the city of Miami Springs, to renovate an existing multi-purpose facility. • $787,059, requested by Public Health Trust of Miami for Jackson Health System, for short-term assessment and treatment of ajudicated minors for substance abuse, including medication, social work, education and physician care. • $750,000, requested by RFB&D of Miami for the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic Florida Unit, to meet the educational needs of Florida's print-disabled children and adults through taped and digital audio books. • $750,000, requested by the Department of Environmental Resource Management for the Miami-Dade County DERM, for the stormwater planning component for the C-4 Basin in north central Miami-Dade County. • $684,690, requested by Public Health Trust for Jackson Health System, for a medical foster care program for 88 children in state custody as an alternative to reducing institutional placements of children with chronic illnesses. • $675,000, requested by the Miami-Dade Homeless Trust, to provide post-crisis stabilization unit out-placement in transitional housing for chronic, mentally ill homeless persons recently discharged. • $600,000, requested by Miami Children's Hospital, to maintain and develop its pediatric trauma center. • $500,000, requested by Mayors Summit of the Americas, to create permanent offices in Florida for the Mayors Summit of the Americas, an organization of mayors of all the democratic countries of the hemisphere. • $500,000, requested by Children's Psychiatric Center in Miami, to provide at-risk children in kindergarten through third grade with individual mentoring. • $425,000, requested by the Florida Venture Foundation, to provide outreach, guidance, training, and technical support services to minority businesses in South Florida. • $400,000, requested by the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, to facilitate services, trade and investment in Florida through a statewide database, website, out-bound and in-bound missions, one-on-one appointments and seminars. • $350,000, requested by One Nation Inc. of Miami, to help legal permanent residents become U.S. citizens free of charge, and also conduct monthly citizenship and voter registration drives in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. • $269,000, requested by the city of Coral Gables, for intersection improvements along U.S. 1. • $200,000, requested by the

Children's Psychiatric Center of Miami, for an in-school program that provides therapeutic and behavioral support to the alternative education classrooms. • $200,000, requested by First Quality Home Care Inc. of Miami, for homebound insulin-dependent diabetics who are unable to self-administer their insulin due to a secondary diagnosis such as blindness. • $200,000, requested by the Achievement & Rehabilitation Centers, Inc., for ARC Broward Inc., to provide intensive specialized behavorial intervention in home and community-based settings; and specialized homebound speech, occupational and family therapies for children with severe autism and related disorders aged 3-18. • $175,000, requested by Curtiss Mansion Inc., to design the renovation of the historically important home of famed naval aviator and inventor Glen Curtiss. • $112,500, requested by the city of South Miami, for improvements to Dante Fascell Park, including drainage in parking lots and tennis courts." (PolitiFact, 11/16/10)

"During Rubio's Eight Years In Office — Including The Final Two When He Was House Speaker — He Unofficially Helped Push Loads Of Hometown Spending: $250 Million, According To A Times/Herald Analysis Of Little-Known Budget Documents." "Republican U.S. Senate front-runner Marco Rubio brags on his Web site that he didn't officially request budget pork in his last four years as a leader in the Florida House. But during Rubio's eight years in office — including the final two when he was House speaker — he unofficially helped push loads of hometown spending: $250 million, according to a Times/Herald analysis of little-known budget documents. The budget items linked to Rubio from 2000 to 2008 are part of a list compiled yearly by the governor's office to track hometown spending. Most of Rubio's budget items benefited his home county of Miami-Dade — from a $50,000 grant sought for a Coral Gables park to $80 million for a University of Miami genomics project. A total of $25 million in requests were vetoed by the governor. The amount of budget money connected to Rubio attests to his skill as a lawmaker but also contrasts with his campaign image as a tight-fisted spending hawk crusading against "earmarks" that have plagued the budget process in Washington. Rubio wouldn't comment and his campaign referred questions to consultant Albert Martinez, who worked in the House under Rubio. Martinez said Rubio tried to cut taxes and spending, not increase them. "Marco Rubio's a limited-government conservative," Martinez said. "He's not a no-government conservative." The budget items also shed light on times when Rubio's public job as a legislator dovetailed with his private interests. One appropriation for Miami-Dade County was sought by lobbyists who worked at his law firm. Another item aided a friend's fight for a Florida Turnpike contract. Other proposals gave big sums to Florida International University and Jackson Memorial Hospital, where Rubio later worked as a consultant. Martinez said the items linked to Rubio helped the whole county, and he described the spending for the hospital and university as necessary and non-controversial. Martinez said the items weren't "turkeys" — Tallahassee parlance for hometown spending lawmakers obtain for their districts, often with little scrutiny. The governor's office budget spreadsheets are nicknamed "turkey lists," but Martinez said Rubio's projects weren't turkeys as defined by the business group TaxWatch." (*Tampa Bay Times*, 11/9/10)

Additional Departures From Fiscal Conservatism – Labor

For Migrant Farmworkers, Rubio "Cosponsored Legislation That Would Have Allowed Workers To Sue Growers In State Court If They Were Cheated On Pay." "Early in his

tenure, for instance, he set up a meeting with farmworkers to discuss their working conditions. He addressed a crowd of about 50 one night in the hall of a migrant-labor housing complex in Homestead, a farming community south of Miami; ultimately, he cosponsored legislation that would have allowed workers to sue growers in state court if they were cheated on pay. "The idea that any legislator, let alone a Republican, would reach out to farmworkers was unheard of. We were flabbergasted," says Greg Schell, managing attorney for the Migrant Farmworker Justice Project." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Overall

Acknowledgement Of Global Warming And Related Measures

VIDEO: In 2009, Rubio Acknowledges "Global Warming" And Calls For Measures To Respond To Likely "Emissions Caps." (YouTube, 3/27/09)



(YouTube, 3/27/09)

Ethanol

Expiration Of Ethanol Mandate – Support

In 2015, "Republican Presidential Candidate Marco Rubio Says He Supports The So-Called Ethanol Mandate — Now That It's In Place, But He Favors Letting It Expire Seven Years From Now." "Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio says he supports the so-called ethanol mandate — now that it's in place, but he favors letting it expire seven years from now. "The Renewable Fuels Standard is not something that I would have voted for had I been in the senate, but it is now existing law and I think it would be unfair to simply yank it away from

people that have made investments based on its existence," Rubio says. "So my argument is we should allow it to continue until it expires and hopefully by then the industry will be able to sustain itself." The Renewable Fuels Standard is set to end in 2022. The Obama Administration has a November 30th deadline to release the federally-required ethanol production levels not only for 2016, but this year and last year, too, since previous deadlines were missed. Rubio has just wrapped up a five-day tour of the state. During a stop this week in Carroll, Rubio argued expanding overseas trade is important to rural America. Rubio, who is a senator from Florida, says the Trans Pacific Partnership could unlock consumer markets like Japan where some U.S. agricultural products aren't sold. "I've seen the impact that the South Korean deal has had on Florida citrus," Rubio says. "It's been very positive for Florida citrus growers and I would imagine that to open it up to all of the Asia-Pacific region to more export would be more profitable not just to them, but to all agriculture across the country." Rubio isn't commiting to voting for the trade agreement, though. "I support free trade," Rubio says. "I want to support a Trans Pacific Partnership. Whether this specific one they've negotiated is the right one for our country, we're in the process of reviewing that." Congress must vote to either ratify or reject the Trans Pacific Partnership. A date for that vote is not yet scheduled." (Radio Iowa, 11/25/15)

EDUCATION

School Funding

Defunding Regional Schools

"A Major Policy Shift In Rubio's First Six Years (It Probably Cannot Be Called An Accomplishment) Was A Tweak To The State's School Financing Formula That Resulted In The Shift Of Tens Of Millions Of Dollars Annually From Schools In South Florida—Including Rubio's Miami-Dade County—To Schools In North And Central Florida. As A Future Speaker, Rubio Had Considerable Influence In This Legislation, But He Refused To Go To The Mat For His Hometown Schools." "Indeed, a major policy shift in Rubio's first six years (it probably cannot be called an accomplishment) was a tweak to the state's school financing formula that resulted in the shift of tens of millions of dollars annually from schools in South Florida—including Rubio's Miami-Dade County—to schools in North and Central Florida. As a future speaker, Rubio had considerable influence in this legislation, but he refused to go to the mat for his hometown schools. Democrats and even some South Florida Republicans attributed this to his needing speakership votes from North and Central Florida Republican members who argued that higher costs of living should not justify higher teacher salaries. (They said South Florida's better "amenities," like its beaches, were reward enough for teachers who chose to live and work there.) Rubio defended his stance, arguing that he had an obligation to look out for the whole state, not just his region, and that, besides, South Florida schools had gotten the best deal they were going to get." (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

For-Profit Colleges

Corinthian Colleges

In 2014, "Senator Marco Rubio Of Florida Asked The U.S. Department Of Education To "Demonstrate Leniency" Toward Corinthian Colleges By Permitting The Wealthy For-Profit Company To Continue Accessing Millions Of Dollars In Federal Financial Aid While It Was Cooperating With A Federal Investigation." (*Bloomberg*, 4/29/15)

"Ten Months Later, The Company Shuttered Its Remaining 28 Campuses, Instantly Displacing Some 16,000 Students Just Days After It Was Fined $30 Million By The Department Of Education For A Scheme Involving "Confirmed Cases Of Misrepresentation Of Job Placement Rates" For As Many As 947 Students. The Decision To Close Shop Came After Years Of Federal And State Investigations Into The Company." "Ten months later, the company shuttered its remaining 28 campuses, instantly displacing some 16,000 students just days after it was fined $30 million by the Department of Education for a scheme involving "confirmed cases of misrepresentation of job placement rates" for as many as 947 students. The decision to close shop came after years of federal and state investigations into the company. The top-tier Republican presidential candidate had made his plea in a letter—obtained by Bloomberg Politics—dated June 20, 2014 and addressed to Jim Shelton, the deputy secretary of education, and Ted Mitchell, the undersecretary for post-secondary education. "It has been brought to my attention that the U.S. Department of Education has recently placed extreme financial constraints on Corinthian Colleges, Inc. by restricting the company's timely access to federal financial aid. It is my understanding the the Department of Education has requested extensive documents be provided by Corinthian Colleges for review, and Corinthian has acted in good faith to try to provide these documents as expeditiously as possible," Rubio wrote. "While I commend the Department's desire to protect our nation's students from fraudulent and malicious activity by any institution of higher education, regardless of tax status, I believe the Department can and should demonstrate leniency as long as Corinthian Colleges, Inc. continues to expeditiously and earnestly cooperate by providing the documents requested.'" (*Bloomberg*, 4/29/15)

"Corinthian Colleges Contributed $5,000 To Rubio's Reclaim America PAC During The 2014 Election Cycle, According To The Center For Responsive Politics, A Nonpartisan Organization That Tracks Political Donations." (*Bloomberg*, 4/29/15)

IMMIGRATION

Overall

"Rubio Has Had A Hesitant, Equivocating Relationship With Immigration Reform—Reflecting Both The Welcome Arms That Met His Immigrant Family And The Nativist Right-Wing Impulses Of His Own Party." "Rubio's policy stances on immigration remain at odds with the views of the overwhelming majority of Hispanics. From the start, Rubio has had a hesitant, equivocating relationship with immigration reform—reflecting both the welcome arms that met his immigrant family and the nativist right-wing impulses of his own party. In the Florida House, he backed a bill with some elements of the DREAM Act. He also made sure as

speaker that an array of draconian anti-immigrant proposals never saw the light of day for a vote." (*Politico*, 11/2015)

Illegal Immigration

Amnesty/ Pathway To Citizenship – Overall And Flip-Flops

"Given His Previous Wobbles On Immigration, There's A Broad Consensus That Political Calculations Will Help Drive Rubio's Position On Reform But No Consensus About Where." "Given his previous wobbles on immigration, there's a broad consensus that political calculations will help drive Rubio's position on reform but no consensus about where. He has continued to toe the Tea Party line on everything else—opposing the fiscal-cliff deal, refusing to raise the debt ceiling, describing Obamacare as economic suicide—so perhaps immigration gives him a chance to prove he can work across the aisle, get something big done and help save his party. But he could also cement his status as a conservative stalwart by rejecting a deal, especially if he manages to dump the blame on Obama." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Rubio Was Known To Be Relatively Moderate On Illegal Immigration Matters As A State Legislator But Flip-Flopped To Become A Hardliner During The 2010 Senate Campaign Including Opposing The Dream Act. "Rubio's journey on the issue has been complicated too. As a state legislator from the overwhelmingly Hispanic community of West Miami, he supported legislation that would allow undocumented students to qualify for in-state tuition. After being selected as house speaker in 2005, he scuttled several Republican efforts to crack down on undocumented immigrants. The obscure book he published laying out his agenda, 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future, included three ideas for preventing identity theft and zero about immigration. But when he announced his underdog campaign for the Senate in 2010, Rubio became a hard-liner. He attacked then governor Charlie Crist's support for reform as Obama-friendly liberal amnesty and opposed the Dream Act, which would have given legal status to those sympathetic immigrants brought here as kids. He started out 30 points behind, with the GOP establishment lined up behind the moderate Crist. While immigration wasn't the big issue in the primary—Crist had embraced the Obama stimulus and even literally embraced Obama at a stimulus rally—it helped convince the party's base of older, exurban Tea Partyers that the hip-hop-loving Cuban American was one of them. Crist was forced to quit the party to run as an independent. Rubio still buried him in the GOP midterm landslide and captured more than half the Hispanic vote." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

- **During His 2010 U.S. Senate Campaign, Rubio Was Outspoken On His Opposition To Ever Supporting Amnesty For Illegal Immigrants.** "Immigration reform was a hot topic in the 2010 Florida Senate race when Rubio ran against Charlie Crist, who ultimately ran as an independent, and Democrat Kendrick Meek. The conservative Shark Tank blogger, Javier Manjarres, asked Rubio in 2009: "Are you pro-amnesty for illegal immigration?" "No, no. Never have been. In fact, I'm strongly against amnesty for a number of different reasons. The first is, I always use the example of the speed limit. If you say the speed limit is 70, but you don't ticket people until they reach 80, well then the speed limit is really 80, it's not 70. Amnesty is the same thing. The most important thing we need to do is enforce our existing laws. We have existing immigration laws that

are not being adequately enforced. Nothing will make it harder to enforce your existing laws if you reward people who broke them." Rubio also said: "I will never support – never have and never will support – any effort to grant blanket, legalization, amnesty to folks who have entered or stayed in this country illegally." In October 2009, Rubio said in an interview on WSRE in Pensacola: "You cannot grant amnesty. If you grant amnesty, you will send a message that all you have to do is come into America illegally, stay here long enough, and we will let you stay. No. 2, you will destroy any hopes you have of having a legal immigration system that works. If the American people see us grant amnesty, they will never again believe in legal immigration, they will never again support it. And that's wrong for our country, bad for our future." "In fact in '86 when Reagan created an amnesty program, about 3 million people were granted amnesty. The result was that you had a bunch of people standing in line to enter legally who all claimed to be illegal because it was easier to get through the amnesty program. So we can't have amnesty. "And I think if you have a guest worker program in place that functions, the illegal folks that are here now will go back home through attrition." In a Senate debate on Univision in September 2010, Rubio spoke against the DREAM Act, which Senate Democrats planned to debate the following week. Dreamers are young people brought to the United States illegally as children. "What they're offering now is a bill that would in essence grant amnesty to 2 million people," Rubio said. "It's a cynical way to play politics with the lives of real people . . . This is what always happens with Hispanic voters in this country, they manipulate them come election time." (The DREAM Act didn't pass. In 2012, President Barack Obama announced Deferred Status for Childhood Arrivals to give temporary status, without a path to citizenship.)" (Politifact, 1/29/16)

However, "In 2012, Rubio Edged Back Toward Compassion, Proposing A Scaled-Back Dream Act." "In 2012, Rubio edged back toward compassion, proposing a scaled-back Dream Act. But before he could introduce a bill, the Obama Administration stole his thunder by unilaterally granting temporary legal status to the so-called Dreamers. That helped revive enthusiasm for Obama among Hispanics annoyed by the Administration's record number of deportations. Romney ended up with a meager 27% of the Hispanic vote; had he matched Bush's 40% share, he might be President today. His thrashing persuaded many Republican elites that as long as they're perceived as unsympathetic obstacles to fixing a dysfunctional immigration system, the fastest-growing sector of the electorate won't listen to anything they say." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

"Rubio Co-Authored The Gang Of Eight Bill In 2013 That Included A Pathway To Citizenship." "While a senator, Rubio co-authored the Gang of Eight bill in 2013 that included a pathway to citizenship. Ahead of the release of the bill, Rubio said that the proposal "is not amnesty." Rubio argued that the legislation outlining a 13-year pathway to legal status and eventually citizenship is not amnesty. He was right that the bill does not offer blanket legal residency to unauthorized immigrants. The bill mandated fines, background checks and waiting periods, and it was tougher than its 1986 predecessor. But it also offered a measure of clemency to those immigrants, who would not be required to return to their home countries. We rated his statement that the proposal "is not amnesty" Half True. In April 2013, Rubio went on Meet the Press to defend the bill. Host David Gregory asked Rubio about his past and current positions on amnesty: Gregory: "Three years ago in a debate you were clear on this. You said, 'To earn a

pathway to citizenship, you have to leave this country if you are here illegally -- go back home. And then you could come back in.' You said an earned pathway was amnesty. Yet you've changed your mind here -- why?" Rubio: "Well, first of all, what I said throughout my campaign was that I was against a blanket amnesty, and this is not blanket amnesty. On the contrary, this is not blanket anything. And, secondly, it's not amnesty because you pay serious consequences for having violated the law. "Third, we need to understand the existing law. The existing law does not prohibit someone -- the law today does not prohibit someone who violated the immigration laws from getting a green card. It simply says you have to leave the United States, and you have to wait 10 years." He then recapped the provisions of the bill that include the waiting period. The bill never reached a vote in the House and died. Rubio now favors a piecemeal approach rather than one comprehensive bill." (Politifact, 1/29/16)

2013: Rubio "Has Endorsed A Path To Citizenship That He Once Derided As "Code For Amnesty," Risking A Backlash From Many Loyal Supporters Who See Los Pobrecitos As Freeloaders." "So he's navigating a borderland of his own. He has endorsed a path to citizenship that he once derided as "code for amnesty," risking a backlash from many loyal supporters who see los pobrecitos as freeloaders. But he has also pushed to make that path more arduous, demanding much tougher enforcement first, insisting he won't get into a who-can-be-nicest bidding war with Obama and pledging to walk away from reform if the final legislation doesn't reflect conservative principles. In an hour-long Feb. 1 interview with TIME, he emphasized that the undocumented have no right to stay in the U.S., vowed to oppose any bill that rewards them for breaking the law and defended the motives of hard-line "shamnesty" critics who say illegal immigrants are taking taxpayers for a ride. "Someone's violated the law, and they're receiving taxpayer benefits? That's a legitimate reason to be upset," Rubio says." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

- **Rubio Crafted The 2013 Senate Immigration Bill And Was The "Chief Spokesman" For The Bill.** "It's a thin, hard line to walk: between the Republican establishment and the base, between compassion and the rule of law, between family and politics. And Rubio is walking it on an issue no politician has cracked in nearly two decades while testing the support of the grassroots Tea Party conservatives he will need if he seeks the White House in 2016. So far, though, he seems to be succeeding. After helping to craft bipartisan reforms in the Senate, he has served as their chief spokesman on right-wing radio and Fox News, getting remarkably sympathetic hearings from Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity and other talkers whose antiamnesty crusades helped kill similar efforts in the George W. Bush era. Almost all of them have praised his courage—Limbaugh called his work "admirable," like a Pope granting absolution—and the backlash has yet to materialize. "I don't know anyone else who could have broken through the conservative sound barrier on immigration," says American Conservative Union chairman Al Cardenas, a Miami lawyer who gave Rubio his first job as an attorney. "Marco can do left brain, so you get the logic, and he can do right brain, so you feel it in your heart and soul." This is Rubio's first leadership audition, his chance to show Republicans that he's more than a compelling speaker with boyish good looks, that he's not just geographically, demographically and ideologically correct. Immigration, he says, is tricky. Though he has evolved on the issue—flip-flopped, if you prefer—he says he's still not sure he's got it exactly right. The word he uses most is balance. That was his first thought after he played

that voice mail from his mother on his iPhone. "I have to balance that humanity with reality," he says. "We have immigration laws. They have to be followed. But yeah, she reminded me that there's a human element to this as well. As a policymaker, you have to strike a balance." The result will shape the future of the nation and the dreams of millions of immigrants, not to mention the fate of the GOP and the ambitions of Marco Rubio." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Under Rubio's 2013 Immigration Reform Bill, A Pathway To Citizenship Would Be Offered To Over 11 Million Illegal Immigrants Provided That The Border Would Be Secured, An Employment Verification Established, And Strengthening Legal Immigration. "Now he wants to reform the system for all immigrants, and his impeccably nuanced positions have become the core of the Senate plan. He agrees that there is no way to round up and deport 11 million people living in the shadows, but he worries that excessive generosity could end up attracting 11 million more. So he backs a path to citizenship—the current situation, he says, amounts to "de facto amnesty"—but only if the borders are secure and an employment-verification system is in place first, and then only if it isn't quicker or easier than the path for applicants who play by the rules. And while he is willing to grant probationary legal status to undocumented immigrants who register and pay fines, he insists they go to the back of the line for green cards and refuses to allow them to collect food stamps or other federal benefits. Obama has announced similar principles, but Rubio has still blasted him for soft-pedaling the need to step up enforcement, among other issues. Some of this is Beltway theater; reform could become toxic for Republicans if it's perceived as Obama-friendly. But there also will be very real differences over details involving guest farmworkers, high-skilled immigrants, same-sex couples and the path to citizenship itself. It's a lot easier to agree that wait times should be reasonable or that the border should be secure than to draft legislation determining what those things mean. This shrewd political operator will have to decide how far he's willing to bend to get a deal done with Obama or whether he's content just to get credit for trying." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Notably, Under Rubio's 2013 Bill, He Allowed For A Concession To Democrats To "Allow Immigrants Who Had Already Been Deported To Return To The United States And Get On The Road To Citizenship." "Rubio had plenty of leverage. If he walked away at any point, the bill would be doomed. But Rubio and his staff also had to gauge what would be acceptable to the right, so that he wasn't left twisting in the wind when the bill was put to a vote. The other Gang of Eight senators—Republicans John McCain and Jeff Flake of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, and Democrats Dick Durbin of Illinois, Chuck Schumer of New York, Michael Bennet of Colorado, and Robert Menendez of New Jersey—and their aides worked hard to make the bill's provisions palatable to conservatives, even if the changes were largely cosmetic. "He was basically the backstop, [the] vetoer," one Democratic aide recalls. "Nothing could get done without his approval." But when it came to who was eligible for that path to citizenship, both sides initially dug in, according to several Democratic aides who were present at the negotiations. Then Rubio blinked, agreeing to a compromise closer to the Democrats' proposal. And he made an additional and unexpected concession: The bill would allow immigrants who had already been deported to return to the United States and get on the road to citizenship. Rubio "gave up a lot, probably for something he should have still held firm," says one aide. "And it's not clear if that was because he was a bad negotiator or he had a good

heart." For Rubio, now a leading contender for the Republican presidential nomination, his work on the immigration bill—perhaps the most notable effort of his short Senate career—remains a matter that could blow up his candidacy, even though the bill never became the law. (In June 2013, it passed in the Senate with a bipartisan majority, but then-Speaker John Boehner, yielding to right-wing opposition to the measure, would not bring it to a vote in the House.) To conservative Republicans who favor a tough approach to illegal immigration, Rubio's participation in the Gang of Eight is disqualifying. To moderate GOPers, who see the need for their party to expand its appeal among Latinos, a fast-growing and critical voting bloc, Rubio's work on the bill is a selling point for the general election. Rubio's challenge has been to try to win over both sides, a difficult task given that conservatives find him too liberal on immigration and reform advocates view Rubio's subsequent attempt to distance himself from the Gang of Eight bill as a betrayal." (Mother Jones, 12/4/15)

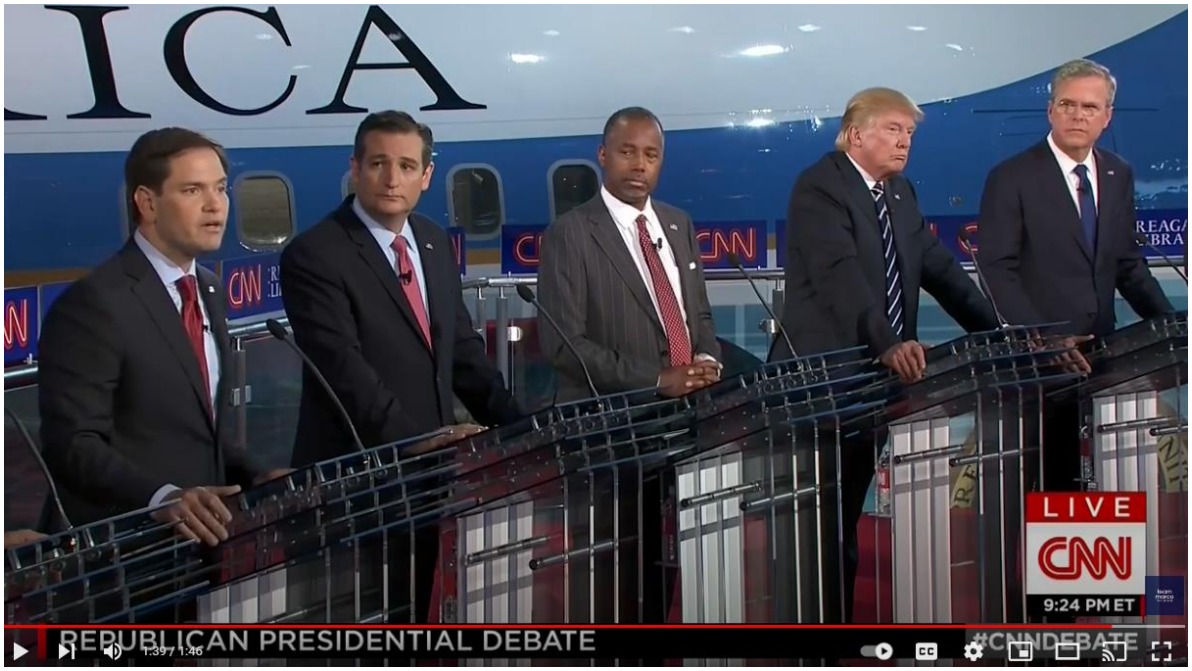
Previously, In 2012, Rubio Announced He Was Working To "Craft A Bill That Would Allow Some Illegal Immigrants To Remain And Work In The U.S. But Would Not Help Them Gain A Path To Citizenship." "The revelation about his grandfather's deportation order comes as Rubio's name is increasingly mentioned as a possible GOP vice presidential nominee. The rising Republican star is viewed by his party as key to wooing Hispanic voters in swing states like Florida, Colorado and New Mexico. Yet while he has long supported legal immigration, Rubio has mostly followed his party's line in opposing any proposal that resembles amnesty for illegal immigrants. Rubio recently announced he is working to craft a bill that would allow some illegal immigrants to remain and work in the U.S. but would not help them gain a path to citizenship. A spokesman for Rubio said Garcia was like thousands of other refugees who often don't arrive with all the necessary visas. He added that the U.S. allowed Cubans to stay. "It's clear he left Cuba when he did because of the political situation there," Rubio spokesman Alex Conant said in an email Wednesday. "He may have chosen the US because his family is here, but he was fleeing Castro's Cuba and arrived here as a refugee — just like thousands of others. Refugees by definition aren't likely to arrive with all the necessary visas, but our nation allowed the Cuban exiles to stay," Conant said. Garcia's case highlights the situation for many Cuban exiles that prompted the U.S. to pass the Cuban Adjustment Act. The law permits most Cubans who arrived in the U.S. after Jan. 1, 1959, to apply for residency and ultimately citizenship after living in the country only a year." (*The Associated Press*, 3/25/12)

Ultimately, "After Experiencing Excoriating Blowback From His Party's Conservative Base, He Reversed Himself, Then Went To Radio Silence On The Issue." "During his 2010 Senate run, as the Tea Party's influence rose in the GOP, he came out against the DREAM Act, but about a year later, he was a member of the so-called Gang of Eight, the bipartisan group in Congress backing broad, comprehensive immigration reform that included a version of the act Then, after experiencing excoriating blowback from his party's conservative base, he reversed himself, then went to radio silence on the issue. Pressed by Sean Hannity during a September interview, Rubio demurred on his own plan. "The first two things you have to do is stop illegal immigration. Then second you have to modernize our legal immigration system, and then third you can have a debate about how to even legalize people to begin with," Rubio told the Fox News host. "And then, ultimately in 10 or 12 years, you could have a broader debate about how has this worked out and should we allow some of them to apply for green cards and eventually

citizenship." Critics immediately pounced that Rubio was ruling out a path to citizenship during his second term, should he be elected." (*Politico*, 11/2015)

"After The Gang Of Eight Bill Stalled In The House And Rubio Lost The Trust Of Many Conservatives, He Immediately Began Moving Away From The Legislation That He Helped Pass." "But just months later, Rubio helped to pass a similar bill to the one he disparaged. He became a member of the "Gang of Eight," a bipartisan group of senators who lead the fight and eventually helped pass comprehensive reform that included a path to citizenship. Conservatives were vehemently opposed to the bill and and felt betrayed by Rubio. "He lied to us first and he went around and repeated that lie from the panhandle to the keys. That's why he got elected," Oliver said of his 2010 promise. "That really angered me. I wasn't raised that way. He didn't keep his word." After the Gang of Eight bill stalled in the House and Rubio lost the trust of many conservatives, he immediately began moving away from the legislation that he helped pass." (NBC News, 1/12/16)

VIDEO: In September 2015, Rubio Argued That The American People Would Be "Reasonable" With Non-Criminal Illegal Immigrants Once The Border Was Secure And Legal Immigration Was Overhauled. (YouTube, 9/16/15)



(YouTube, 9/16/15)

However, In January 2016, "Rubio's Spokesperson Alex Conant Confirmed That Rubio Still Does Back A Path To Citizenship"; Rubio Also Noted His Support For A Pathway To Citizenship Multiple Times In 2015. "While he doesn't often say it, he still supports a path to citizenship. In June when he was asked if he supported a path to citizenship, he said, "I do." And in an interview on Hannity on Fox News in September, Rubio said he supports citizenship at the end of a long, complicated process that could take an immigrant more than ten years to navigate. Instead of being specific when he does talk about the 11 million undocumented immigrants,

Rubio uses a loaded term that appeals to many in the Republican base. He recently started saying on the campaign trail that he's "not going to support amnesty," like he did at a Burlington, Iowa town hall Monday. Asked to clarify, Rubio's spokesperson Alex Conant confirmed that Rubio still does back a path to citizenship. Should Rubio win the Republican nomination and have to appeal to a broader voter base, it's unclear what position he'll take." (NBC News, 1/12/16)

In 2018, "Rubio Says He Doesn't Disavow The Gang Of Eight Bill And Seems Encouraged To See New GOP Senators Like Thom Tillis Of North Carolina And James Lankford Of Oklahoma Step Into Prominent Roles In Immigration Talks This Time Around." "Rubio says he doesn't disavow the Gang of Eight bill and seems encouraged to see new GOP senators like Thom Tillis of North Carolina and James Lankford of Oklahoma step into prominent roles in immigration talks this time around. And he said he's not signaling a conservative turn by largely staying out of the bipartisan talks, at least for now. Instead, he says he's just acknowledging political reality: That a big bill written by a band of senators from both parties is no longer the way to get a solution before the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program expires in March, though that deadline is murkier because a court has ordered the administration to start taking DACA renewals again. "We don't have a lot of time here to get a result. We have a 40-day period. We don't have a lot of time here for an extended back and forth," Rubio said. "What we do now [needs to be] as narrow and as focused as possible. The bigger this bill is, the harder it will be to pass.'" (*Politico*, 1/25/18)

Mass Deportation – Oppose

Rubio, Who Is Known To Back Legal Status For Illegal Immigrants Only After The Border Is Secure, Also "Said He Would Not Deport All Of The Undocumented Immigrants In The Country Now." "Immigration: Secure the border, then work towards a legal status and possible path to citizenship. More vetting for refugees. Rubio supports a legal status for undocumented immigrants, but only after the U.S. border is secure. To accomplish that, Rubio said he would hire 20,000 new border agents and would complete the 700-mile fence at the border. The Florida Senator said he would not deport all of the undocumented immigrants in the country now. In 2013, Rubio joined the "Gang of Eight," which drafted and pushed a comprehensive immigration reform bill, including a path to citizenship, through the Senate. After the bill froze in the House, Rubio refocused his efforts on securing the border with Mexico." (PBS, 4/13/15)

DACA/ Dream Act

In 2013, Rubio Expressed Sympathy And Compassion For Young Illegal Immigrants (Dreamers) And Compared Them To His Own Grandfather, Who Also Was An Illegal Immigrant. "In another book, The Rise of Marco Rubio, the journalist Manuel Roig-Franzia reveals that Papa was also, for a time, an undocumented immigrant. After fleeing Cuba in 1962, he was detained at the Miami airport and later ordered deported. But he was never sent home, and eventually he qualified for residency under the Cuban Adjustment Act of 1966, which still ensures Cuban refugees special treatment in the U.S. Rubio says he never knew his grandfather had lived in the U.S. illegally. But he told TIME that Papa's situation illustrated the moral quandaries surrounding immigration, which he wrestles with today. "He didn't have a legal right

to be here, but America wasn't going to deport an elderly man to a communist dictatorship," Rubio says. "It equates to these kids who were brought here when they were 5 or 6 and have no memory of the country where they were born. America is a compassionate country that says, 'Let's help these folks.' But you have to do it in a way that doesn't encourage people to bring their kids in the future, so they can get the same benefit. It's complicated.'" (*Time*, 2/7/13)

"In 2012, Rubio Edged Back Toward Compassion, Proposing A Scaled-Back Dream Act." "In 2012, Rubio edged back toward compassion, proposing a scaled-back Dream Act. But before he could introduce a bill, the Obama Administration stole his thunder by unilaterally granting temporary legal status to the so-called Dreamers. That helped revive enthusiasm for Obama among Hispanics annoyed by the Administration's record number of deportations. Romney ended up with a meager 27% of the Hispanic vote; had he matched Bush's 40% share, he might be President today. His thrashing persuaded many Republican elites that as long as they're perceived as unsympathetic obstacles to fixing a dysfunctional immigration system, the fastest-growing sector of the electorate won't listen to anything they say." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Regarding DACA, "At Times Rubio Has Supported The Idea That The Program Should Be Ended Only After A Legislative Solution Is Reached. But During His Run For President In 2015, He Said He Would End The Program On His First Day As President, Regardless Of Whether Congress Had Reached A Compromise." "Since the deferred action program was created, Rubio has remained consistent in his opinion that the program was created illegally and that the executive branch did not have the authority to create it. Rubio has asserted that Congress has a responsibility to create a permanent solution for immigrants who came to the United States illegally as children. He has been less consistent in his opinion about when the program should end. At times Rubio has supported the idea that the program should be ended only after a legislative solution is reached. But during his run for president in 2015, he said he would end the program on his first day as president, regardless of whether Congress had reached a compromise." (Politifact, 11/1/22)

Education – Tuition Benefits

"As A State Legislator From The Overwhelmingly Hispanic Community Of West Miami, He Supported Legislation That Would Allow Undocumented Students To Qualify For In-State Tuition." "Rubio's journey on the issue has been complicated too. As a state legislator from the overwhelmingly Hispanic community of West Miami, he supported legislation that would allow undocumented students to qualify for in-state tuition. After being selected as house speaker in 2005, he scuttled several Republican efforts to crack down on undocumented immigrants. The obscure book he published laying out his agenda, 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future, included three ideas for preventing identity theft and zero about immigration." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

"In The Years Before His Speakership, Rubio Would Also Cosponsor A Bill That Sought To Award In-State Tuition Rates To The Children Of Undocumented Immigrants." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Education – Immigration Status

"In 2002, Rubio Led A Successful Charge To Quash A Republican Bill That Would Have Required All Colleges To Submit The Visa Information Of Foreign Students To The Florida Department Of Law Enforcement." "In 2002, Rubio led a successful charge to quash a Republican bill that would have required all colleges to submit the visa information of foreign students to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. "I'm concerned," he said, "that by the end of the session, immigrant and foreign-born people who are here in this country legally won't be able to get married without a struggle, get a driver's license without being hassled, and won't be able to go to school without being tracked.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Rhetoric – Criticism Of Hardline Immigration Rhetoric

In 2010, Rubio Criticized Hardline Conservative Immigration Rhetoric Noting "The Rhetoric Of Some Republicans On Immigration "Has Created A Problem," He Says. "I Don't Think The Republican Party Should Be The Anti-Illegal Immigration Party.'" "Securing the border is critical, Mr. Rubio says, but he also recommends that Republicans keep their nativist impulses in check to avoid hurting the party with Latinos, a good chunk of whom are natural GOP allies on growth and opportunity. The rhetoric of some Republicans on immigration "has created a problem," he says. "I don't think the Republican Party should be the anti-illegal immigration party. We should be the pro legal immigration party, and we need to do a better job of explaining that to people." Mr. Rubio's fan base is similar to that of Sarah Palin, though Mr. Rubio, whose family immigrated from Cuba, gets more points for policy smarts. He's never met Ms. Palin but admires her political style: "I think she brings a level of real-life everyday sentiment that people identify with. . . . I think she energizes people." Among both supporters and skeptics in the GOP, there's a sense that the two, along with Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan, are among the party's leaders of the future—and also a sense that after the Bush interregnum the fundamental soul of the GOP is Reaganite after all. Money has also begun pouring in to help level the playing field against the well-funded governor." (*The Wall Street Journal*, 3/13/10)

Miscellaneous – Killing Anti-Illegal Immigration Legislation In Florida

Rubio "Made Sure As Speaker That An Array Of Draconian Anti-Immigrant Proposals Never Saw The Light Of Day For A Vote." "Rubio's policy stances on immigration remain at odds with the views of the overwhelming majority of Hispanics. From the start, Rubio has had a hesitant, equivocating relationship with immigration reform—reflecting both the welcome arms that met his immigrant family and the nativist right-wing impulses of his own party. In the Florida House, he backed a bill with some elements of the DREAM Act. He also made sure as speaker that an array of draconian anti-immigrant proposals never saw the light of day for a vote." (*Politico*, 11/2015)

Rubio "Can Also Be Credited With Stalling Legislation Opposed By Immigration Advocates." "When Rubio became speaker in 2006, proponents of immigration reform believed they would have a good chance of passing immigrant-friendly laws. Rubio was one of a handful of members from Miami who represented immigrant-heavy districts and were considered

sensitive to advocates' causes. As Speaker, Rubio "straddled that issue," said Juan Zapata, who served in the Florida House with Rubio and is supporting Jeb Bush. Rubio no longer co-sponsored the DREAM Act, but he can also be credited with stalling legislation opposed by immigration advocates." (NBC News, 1/12/16)

- **Rubio Blocked Legislation That "Would Have Cracked Down On Enforcement And Made It More Difficult For Undocumented Workers To Work –- Bills Backed By Many Republicans And Opponents To Illegal Immigration."** "After Congress tried and failed to pass comprehensive immigration reform in 2006, legislators introduced a series of bills that would have cracked down on enforcement and made it more difficult for undocumented workers to work –- bills backed by many Republicans and opponents to illegal immigration. Rubio, who singularly controlled what legislation was brought up for debate, refused to let the measures progress. Don Brown, who was a member of the House legislature at the time, sponsored several of the bills. He said he was told that the proposals would never go anywhere. "We had quite a number of members in the Republican caucus that were from the Miami area and they were very sensitive about the issue," Brown said. But during his run for Senate, Rubio took a hard right turn on immigration." (NBC News, 1/12/16)

Miscellaneous – Rubio's Family's Support For Illegal Immigrants And Agreement

In 2012, Rubio's Mother Was Recorded Telling Her Son To Not Be Harsh Against Illegal Immigrants Calling Them "Pobrecitos" And Saying "They Came For The Same Reasons We Came." "Oriales García Rubio knows how it feels to want more. When she was a girl in central Cuba in the 1930s, her family of nine lived in a one-room house with a dirt floor. Her dolls were Coke bottles dressed in rags. She dreamed of becoming an actress. Instead she married a security guard, moved with him to the U.S. and found work as a hotel maid. Her husband got a job as a bartender while starting a series of failed businesses—a vegetable stand, a dry cleaner, a grocery. They never had much. But their house had a real floor. Their daughters had real dolls. They sent all four of their children to college to chase their own dreams. That's why on the morning of Dec. 21, she called her youngest son, Marco Antonio Rubio, the 41-year-old Senator from Florida and great Hispanic hope of the Republican Party—or, as she calls him, Tony. She got his voice mail. "Tony, some loving advice from the person who cares for you most in the world," she said in Spanish. "Don't mess with the immigrants, my son. Please, don't mess with them." She reminded him that undocumented Americans—los pobrecitos, she called them, the poor things—work hard and get treated horribly. "They're human beings just like us, and they came for the same reasons we came. To work. To improve their lives. So please, don't mess with them.'" (*Time*, 2/7/13)

- **Rubio Is Known To Have Agreed With His Mother's Sentiment That Illegal Immigrants Needed Support.** "For now, though, Rubio says he's content to stay where he is and try to help los pobrecitos secure a better life for their kids, just as his parents did for him. If that ends up helping his career, well, his parents wanted him to chase his dreams. "I've always viewed politics the following way: if you do a good job at the job you're doing, you'll have opportunities to do other things in the future," Rubio says. "Maybe things you never envisioned.'" (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Additional Immigration Reform Measures

Birthright Citizenship Repeal – Oppose

In 2015, Rubio Noted That He Did Not Support Trump's Calls To Repeal Birthright Citizenship. "For many of the Republican presidential candidates at the Iowa State Fair this week, it has come down to a single question: How much do you agree with Donald Trump? There has been no avoiding Trump here, even days after he buzzed the fairgrounds with his helicopter., opens new tab On Tuesday, it was Marco Rubio's turn. Before speaking at the fair's storied political soapbox, Rubio was asked whether, as Trump favors, automatic or so-called "birthright" citizenship–the legal right of children born in U.S. territory to become citizens regardless of their parents' legal status–should be repealed. Rubio said no. "I don't agree with that," the senator from Florida said. Trump on Monday called for ending birthright citizenship, opens new tab as part of his immigration platform. Scott Walker, the Wisconsin governor, quickly said he supported the idea. Repealing the right would likely involve amending the U.S. Constitution., opens new tab Rubio, who the most recent CNN poll, opens new tabhas trailing far behind Trump in Iowa, spoke to fairgoers for less than 10 minutes in a driving rain and took no questions from the small crowd." (*Reuters*, 8/25/15)

VIDEO: In August 2015, Rubio Opposes Repeal Of The 14th Amendment And Birthright Citizenship. (YouTube, 8/20/15)


marcorubio.com
FOX NEWS channel
SEN. MARCO RUBIO (R-FL)
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
the O'Reilly FACTOR
TO IRAN AS PART OF DEAL BROKERED WITH U.S. AND 5 OTHER WORLD POW
0:35 / 5:00

(YouTube, 8/20/15)

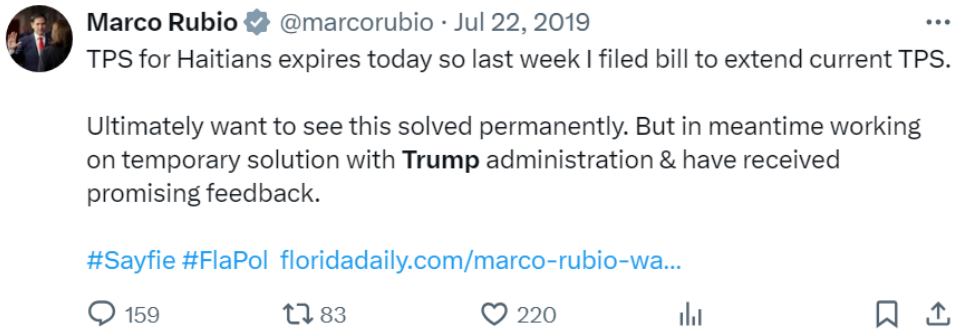
Temporary Protected Status (TPS): Venezuelans – Support

In 2019, Rubio Was The Only Republican In A Group Of Senators Requesting Trump "To Grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) To Venezuelan Citizens In The United States, Amid An Ongoing Political And Humanitarian Crisis In The South American Country." "A bipartisan group of senators asked President Trump on Thursday to grant temporary protected

status (TPS) to Venezuelan citizens in the United States, amid an ongoing political and humanitarian crisis in the South American country. Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), fellow Democratic Sens. Dick Durbin (Ill.) and Bob Menendez (N.J.), and Republican Marco Rubio (Fla.) wrote to the White House, asking for the administration to designate Venezuela within TPS. In a letter reviewed by The Hill, the senators asked Trump for the designation "in light of the ongoing violence, deteriorating security situation, and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela caused by the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro." Under TPS, foreign nationals of a country undergoing man-made or natural disasters are allowed to live and work in the United States as their home country recovers. Designations are made on a country-by-country basis and apply to foreign nationals already in the United States, and can be renewed indefinitely for periods of up to 18 months. Trump has systematically targeted for termination long-standing TPS designations — including some that have been consistently renewed for decades, such as El Salvador. But the Trump administration has kept at least one newer designation active — for Syrian nationals fleeing the country's civil war — suggesting a potential openness to maintain the program in effect. And the Venezuelan crisis has become a central foreign policy issue and a rare point of accord for Trump and Congress. "The situation in Venezuela is volatile and violent, so it makes all the sense in the world to extend Temporary Protected Status to Venezuelan immigrants who should not be forced to return there while circumstances are so dangerous," said Schumer in a statement. "It is imperative Venezuela, working in concert with our allies throughout Latin America, move past the disastrous and despotic Maduro regime and reestablish order, democracy and human rights. The United States must stand as a beacon of freedom and extend this protection to eligible Venezuelans yearning for a peaceful, prosperous and democratic Venezuela," he added. Durbin, Menendez and Rubio, along with Sens. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Cory Booker (D-N.J). introduced last week a bill to designate Venezuela for TPS. But the program generally operates by executive action, with the secretary of Homeland Security announcing new designations and terminations. In their letter, the senators ask Trump to mandate a designation for Venezuela, based on the country's political and economic conditions. "Venezuela clearly meets the standard for TPS as it is obviously too dangerous for Venezuelan nationals to return to their country. It is facing simultaneous humanitarian, economic, and political crises of monumental proportions due to Maduro's criminal regime," wrote the senators. The senators added a reminder that TPS designations don't carry any permanent immigration benefits for their beneficiaries, and any recipient must pass a background check. "As the United States and our partners in the international community have condemned the illegitimate Maduro regime's brutal campaign of repression, granting TPS to Venezuela is a concrete measure your Administration can immediately take to alleviate the suffering of innocent Venezuelan civilians and to demonstrate our nation's commitment to supporting a safe democratic transition in Venezuela so that individuals can safely return home soon," they wrote. Schumer, Durbin, Menendez and Rubio were joined by 20 other Democratic senators." (The Hill, 3/7/19)

Temporary Protected Status (TPS): Haitians – Support

In 2019, Rubio Noted He Filed Legislation To Extend TPS For Haitians And That He Was Working With The Trump Administration On A Longer Term Solution. (Twitter, 7/22/19)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 22, 2019
TPS for Haitians expires today so last week I filed bill to extend current TPS.
Ultimately want to see this solved permanently. But in meantime working on temporary solution with Trump administration & have received promising feedback.
#Sayfie #FlaPol floridadaily.com/marco-rubio-wa...
159
83
220

(Twitter, 7/22/19)

Border Security

National Emergency Related To The U.S.-Mexico Border

Rubio Voted Yea On HJ Res 46, A Resolution That "Terminates The National Emergency Related To The U.S.-Mexico Border, Declared By The President On February 15, 2019." (HJ Res 46, Resolution Passed – Senate (59-41), U.S. Senate, 3/14/19, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

March 14, 2019	Overturning President Trump's emergency declaration for border wall funding (59-41)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Funding Efforts

In 2019, Rubio Voted Yea On A Motion To Table The Paul Amendment To HR 3401, Which Provided Funds For Border Security. (Paul Amdt To HR 3401, Tabled (77 - 15), United States Senate, 6/26/19, Rubio Voted To Table)

- NOTE: "To rescind $4,586,000,000 from foreign assistance and exchange programs." (Paul Amdt To HR 3401)

ACU: The Paul Amendment To HR 3401 "Would Fund Humanitarian Assistance And Security At The Southern Border By Rescinding And Re-Appropriating Roughly $4.5 Billion In Foreign Aid (Approximately 10% Of Total U.S. Foreign Aid)." "The Paul (R-KY, ACUF Lifetime 96%) amendment to a supplemental appropriations bill would fund humanitarian assistance and security at the southern border by rescinding and re-appropriating roughly $4.5 billion in foreign aid (approximately 10% of total U.S. foreign aid)." (American Conservative Union)

The American Conservative Union "Supports Prioritizing Funds To Strengthen National Security And Address The Crisis At The Southern Border And Supported This Amendment." "ACU supports prioritizing funds to strengthen national security and address the

crisis at the southern border and supported this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment by a vote to table on June 26, 2019 by a vote of 77- 15 and the underlying bill was signed into law without this crucial reform. (A "no" vote supported the ACU position.)" (American Conservative Union)

2024 Senate Border Security Measure

VIDEO: In January 2024, Rubio Blames The Failure Of The 2024 Senate Border Security Measure On Biden Essentially Out-Maneuvering "The Crazy Republican Maga People In The House…" (Fox News, 1/22/24)


MARCO RUBIO (R) | FLORIDA SENATOR
FOX NEWS channel
BIDEN ADMIN'S TX LAWSUIT REVEALS BORDER HYPOCRISY
0:13 / 0:18
THE INGRAHAM ANGLE

(Fox News, 1/22/24)

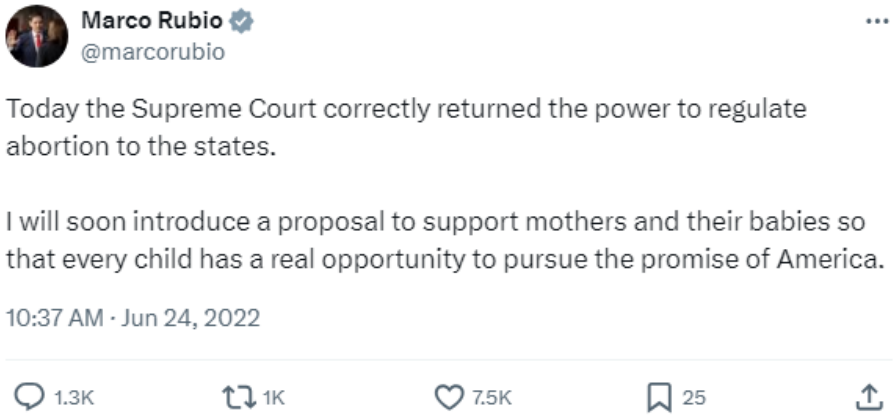
SOCIAL ISSUES

Abortion (Extremist Positions/ Electability Issues)

Overview Of Abortion Restrictions Support

"Rubio Has Said If He Had His Way, He'd Prefer To Ban Almost All Abortions." "Murphy said, "Marco Rubio would take away a woman's right to choose for victims of rape or incest." Rubio has been a staunch opponent of abortion for years, but his position is subtly shaded. He thinks abortion should not be allowed unless the mother's life is endangered. But he is willing to support legislation that contains exceptions allowing the procedure for victims of rape and incest. He has backed measures both with and without exceptions. Rubio has said if he had his way, he'd prefer to ban almost all abortions. But his record shows he's willing to give at least a little ground on the issue, which Murphy has obscured in his ad. We rate the statement Mostly True." (Politifact, 9/23/16)

- **In 2022, Rubio Praised The Supreme Court For Voting To Overturn Roe V. Wade.** (Twitter, 6/24/22)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
Today the Supreme Court correctly returned the power to regulate abortion to the states.
I will soon introduce a proposal to support mothers and their babies so that every child has a real opportunity to pursue the promise of America.
10:37 AM · Jun 24, 2022
1.3K
1K
7.5K
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(Twitter, 6/24/22)

- **Previously, In 2015, "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) Laid Out His Strong Anti-Abortion Views In A Speech On Friday, Calling The Supreme Court's Landmark Abortion Rights Decision In Roe V. Wade A "Historically, Egregiously Flawed Decision" That "Has Condoned The Taking Of Innocent Life On A Massive Scale.'"** "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) laid out his strong anti-abortion views in a speech on Friday, calling the Supreme Court's landmark abortion rights decision in Roe v. Wade a "historically, egregiously flawed decision" that "has condoned the taking of innocent life on a massive scale." "It is fundamentally impossible for America to reach her destiny as a nation founded on the equal rights of all if our government believes an entire segment of the human population doesn't have a right to exist," the 2016 presidential candidate said at the National Right to Life Convention in New Orleans. The Supreme Court legalized abortion in the 1973 decision, ruling that states cannot prevent women from obtaining the procedure up until the fetus would be viable outside the womb, around 22 to 24 weeks of pregnancy. In the years before abortion was legal, it was common for women to land in the hospital after seeking illegal, "back-alley" abortions or attempting to self-induce. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that in 1972, the year before Roe v. Wade, 130,000 women obtained illegal or self-induced procedures, and 39 of them died. Republicans in Congress are currently trying to chip away at Roe v. Wade by banning abortion at 20 weeks of pregnancy. Rubio and nearly every other Republican presidential candidate has endorsed the legislation. Ten states have enacted similar abortion limits, and anti-abortion advocates hope one of the laws eventually makes its way to the Supreme Court and overturns Roe. Rubio said Friday that the issue of abortion is "more than political or policy-related. It is a definitional issue about the kind of country we want to be." According to a recent Gallup poll, half of Americans consider themselves "pro-choice," while 44 percent identify as "pro-life." But Rubio said he believes that nearly every American is personally opposed to the procedure, regardless of whether they think it should be legal. "You can judge a cause by the arguments made on both sides. For example, I rarely meet anyone who's willing to say they're pro-abortion," he said. "They'll say they're pro-choice, but almost everyone I've met says that they personally disagree with abortion. That alone tells us a little about the basic common sense the issue is built on.'" (Huffington Post, 7/10/15)

In 2011, Rubio Authored S 1241, The Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act. (S 1241, Introduced, United States Senate, 6/21/11, Rubio Authored)

- NOTE: "Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act - Amends the federal criminal code to prohibit transporting a minor child across a state line to obtain an abortion (deems such transporting to be a de facto abridgment of the right of a parent under any law in the minor's state of residence that requires parental involvement in the minor's abortion decision). Makes an exception for an abortion necessary to save the life of the minor." (S 1241)
- NOTE: "Makes it an affirmative defense to a prosecution or civil action under this Act that a defendant: (1) reasonably believed that before the minor obtained the abortion, the required parental consent or notification or judicial authorization took place; or (2) was presented with documentation showing that a court waived parental notification requirements or authorized the minor's abortion." (S 1241)
- NOTE: "Defines "abortion" as the termination of a pregnancy with an intention other than to increase the probability of a live birth, preserve the life or health of the child after live birth, remove a dead unborn child who died as the result of a spontaneous abortion, accidental trauma, or a criminal assault on the pregnant female or her unborn child." (S 1241)
- NOTE: "Imposes a fine and/or prison term of up to one year on a physician who performs or induces an abortion on an out-of-state minor in violation of parental notification requirements. Requires such physician to give 24-hour actual or constructive notice to a parent of the minor seeking an abortion, subject to certain exceptions." (S 1241)
- **According To A CRS Report, Rubio's S 1241 Goes Further Than Similar Legislation By Restricting A Physician's Ability To Legally Perform An Abortion On A Minor.** "The Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act (CIANA), introduced as S. 1241 by Senator Marco Rubio on June 21, 2011, and as H.R. 2299 by Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen on June 22, 2011, would also prohibit the knowing transport of a minor across state lines with the intent that the minor obtain an abortion. Unlike the CCPA, however, the CIANA would also prohibit a physician from knowingly performing or inducing an abortion on a minor who is a resident of another state unless actual notice is provided to a parent of the minor at least 24 hours before performing the procedure. A physician who violated the notification requirement would be fined in accordance with Title 18 of the U.S. Code, imprisoned for not more than one year, or both. The notification requirement would not apply in certain specified situations, including instances where the minor declared in a signed written statement that she was the victim of sexual abuse, neglect, or physical abuse by a parent." ("Federal Legislation In The 112th Congress," Every CRS Report, Accessed 3/24)

According To A 2013 CBS News Report, Rubio Sought To Offer "Political Red Meat" To His Constituency With A "Federal Ban On Abortions 20 Weeks After Conception." "Florida Senator Marco Rubio angered much of his conservative base by actively pushing bipartisan immigration reform. But now, he may be ready to give political red meat to the voters

he alienated by introducing a far-reaching abortion ban in the Senate. According to the Weekly Standard, Senator Rubio will introduce a federal ban on abortions 20 weeks after conception. Rubio is expected to announce his sponsoring of the bill when Congress returns next week from the July 4th recess. A similar bill made it through the GOP-controlled House of Representatives last week, but even with Rubio expected to bring it up in the Senate, it's not expected to go anywhere. Rubio had an amendment rejected earlier this year that would have imposed new penalties for abortions performed on minors outside their home state, according to the Huffington Post. Rubio's move may not come with much fanfare because of the danger of abortion politics to the Republican Party as it tries to remake its image after the 2012 election failures." ("Report: Rubio Set To Introduce Abortion Ban," CBS News, 7/3/13)

- **CBS News: "Rubio Had An Amendment Rejected Earlier This Year That Would Have Imposed New Penalties For Abortions Performed On Minors Outside Their Home State".** ("Report: Rubio Set To Introduce Abortion Ban," CBS News, 7/3/13)

Rubio, 2015: "People Should Hope That My Faith Influences My Political Position And In This Case I'm Proud To Say That My Faith Influences Me… It Teaches Me That God Knew Us When He Formed Us In The Womb… When There Is Conception That That Is A Human Life In The Early Stages Of Its Total Development That Is Worthy Of The Protection Of Our Laws." "Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio said his views on abortion – which were grilled Thursday night at the Republican field's first primary debate – are rooted in his faith and that's why he opposes abortion even in cases of rape or incest. "People should hope that my faith influences my political position and in this case I'm proud to say that my faith influences me," he told CNN's "New Day" on Friday. "It teaches me that God knew us when he formed us in the womb. … And even some human life that some scientist wants to have a debate about but I believe that science is clear. That when there is conception that that is a human life in the early stages of its total development that is worthy of the protection of our laws." CNN's Chris Cuomo asked the senator about co-sponsoring a previous bill that allowed abortions in instances of rape and incest victims – which Fox News debate moderator Megyn Kelly sharply questioned the Florida senator about on Thursday." ("Marco Rubio Defends Abortion Stance: Human Life Begins At Conception," CNN, 8/7/15)

In 2015, Rubio Expressed His Opposition To Abortion In Cases Of Rape And Incest, "I Personally Believe That You Do Not Correct One Tragedy With A Second Tragedy." "Rubio, a conservative Catholic, said he is not in favor of abortion even in cases of rape or incest, a minority position even among anti-abortion voters. "I think both of those instances are horrifying and fortunately, they are extremely rare. It happens. And anytime it happens, it's horrifying and it's a tragedy," he said. "But I personally and honestly and deeply believe that all human life is worthy of protection irrespective of the circumstances, in which, that human life was created. I personally believe that you do not correct one tragedy with a second tragedy." The Florida senator has recently been vocal about his desire to see Planned Parenthood defunded following the release of videos accusing the group of illegally selling the organs and tissue of aborted fetuses. "Every single one of us started at that same stage. It can't become anything other than a human being. And it is neither up to you nor I nor any politician to decide that we're going to allow this life to move forward and this life not to," Rubio said. "Do you want to really

have a government in the decision of deciding what a human life is and what's not a human life?" Rubio pushed back on the idea that his abortion positions are radical and said that a high value of human life is a traditional view that resonates with most Americans and that should not change. "The value of life is timeless. The idea that a human life is worthy of the protection of our laws is not something that over time anyone should evolve on," he said." ("Marco Rubio Defends Abortion Stance: Human Life Begins At Conception," CNN, 8/7/15)

- **Rubio: "Every Single One Of Us Started At That Same Stage… The Value Of Life Is Timeless. The Idea That A Human Life Is Worthy Of The Protection Of Our Laws Is Not Something That Over Time Anyone Should Evolve On".** ("Marco Rubio Defends Abortion Stance: Human Life Begins At Conception," CNN, 8/7/15)
- **Rubio: "It Is Neither Up To You Nor I Nor Any Politician To Decide That We're Going To Allow This Life To Move Forward And This Life Not To… Do You Want To Really Have A Government In The Decision Of Deciding What A Human Life Is And What's Not A Human Life?"** ("Marco Rubio Defends Abortion Stance: Human Life Begins At Conception," CNN, 8/7/15)

Rubio, 2016: "All Human Life Is Worthy Of The Protection Of Our Laws. Even One Abortion Is Too Many." "For the first time ever, Planned Parenthood has endorsed someone for president in a primary. It is now abundantly clear that if Hillary Clinton is elected, she will pursue the most radical pro-abortion agenda in American history. She must be stopped. And with your help, she will be. All human life is worthy of the protection of our laws. Even one abortion is too many. Yet despite the fact that the pro-life movement continues to grow, we have not yet persuaded enough Americans to join the effort to protect life once and for all. If I am our party's nominee, I will work every day to change that. Throughout my time in public service, I have sought, whenever possible, to protect life. I've worked to prohibit abortion after twenty weeks, when science tells us an unborn child can feel pain. I've led the fight to require parental notification when a minor is taken across state lines for an abortion." ("Rubio Campaign Press Release - Marco Rubio: 'Even One Abortion Is Too Many'," American Presidency Project, 1/19/16)

In 2022, Rubio Described Abortion As Putting "Two Fundamental Rights In Conflict — The Right To Choose Of A Woman And The Right To Live Of An Unborn Human Being." "What he said — "I am in favor of laws that protect human life. I do not believe that the dignity and the worth of human life is tied to the circumstances of their conception, but I recognize that's not a majority position," Rubio told DeFede. "This is not an easy issue. I never said this is an easy issue. It puts two fundamental rights in conflict — the right to choose of a woman and the right to live of an unborn human being."" ("Rubio Spells Out His Position On Abortion," Politico, 8/26/22)

- **Rubio: "I Do Not Believe That The Dignity And The Worth Of Human Life Is Tied To The Circumstances Of Their Conception".** ("Rubio Spells Out His Position On Abortion," Politico, 8/26/22)

Rubio, 2023: "We Need To Tell The Truth About What Abortion Is — The Taking Of Innocent Life — And Advocate Limits To The Practice". "Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida has laid out a road map for Republicans to drive the abortion narrative away from Democrats, promote candidates at the ballot box and save the lives of the unborn. A key element of his

strategy is to force Democrats on the defensive about their extreme left-wing agenda of no-limits abortion on demand. Mr. Rubio debuted his plan in a memo titled "Winning Pro-Life Strategy." He circulated it just before the annual March for Life rally in Washington on Friday and the anniversary Monday of the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. President Biden and other Democrats will use the anniversary to launch their pro-choice election-year offensive. Mr. Rubio said Republicans need to reset the debate on abortion. "First, we need to develop and fight for a compassionate, pro-family agenda that counters caricatures of our beliefs and makes life easier for mothers and their children," he said in the memo. "Second, we need to put Democrats on the defensive about their extreme support for abortion. "Third, we need to tell the truth about what abortion is — the taking of innocent life — and advocate limits to the practice," he said. Mr. Rubio is calling for a more holistic policy approach that combines the Republican Party's long-standing support of laws curbing abortion with a greater focus on supporting pregnant women. Republicans should rally behind paid parental leave at work, stronger child support enforcement, an enhanced child tax credit and more help for college students who get pregnant, he said. "Republicans will not be trusted unless our legislative agenda welcomes and supports life, while also opposing the injustice of abortion," Mr. Rubio said in his four-page memo. "This is the long-standing view of many pro-life and faith leaders, but it needs to become the dominant view of our party.'"" ("Marco Rubio Crafts Election-Year Blueprint For GOP's Abortion Agenda," Washington Times, 1/18/24)

- **Washington Times: "Mr. Rubio Is Calling For A More Holistic Policy Approach That Combines The Republican Party's Long-Standing Support Of Laws Curbing Abortion With A Greater Focus On Supporting Pregnant Women."** ("Marco Rubio Crafts Election-Year Blueprint For GOP's Abortion Agenda," Washington Times, 1/18/24)
- **Rubio: "Republicans Will Not Be Trusted Unless Our Legislative Agenda Welcomes And Supports Life, While Also Opposing The Injustice Of Abortion… This Is The Long-Standing View Of Many Pro-Life And Faith Leaders, But It Needs To Become The Dominant View Of Our Party."** ("Marco Rubio Crafts Election-Year Blueprint For GOP's Abortion Agenda," Washington Times, 1/18/24)
- **Rubio: "We Need To Put Democrats On The Defensive About Their Extreme Support For Abortion."** ("Marco Rubio Crafts Election-Year Blueprint For GOP's Abortion Agenda," Washington Times, 1/18/24)

Extremist Rhetoric And Positions – Personhood

In 2022, Rubio "Seemed To Compare Abortion To Vehicular Manslaughter" Indicating Possible Support For Personhood Arguments. "In a virtual town hall Monday, Florida Republican Sen. Marco Rubio seemed to compare abortion to vehicular manslaughter "In most states in this country, if a drunk driver runs a red light and kills a pregnant woman, they are charged with two counts of vehicular manslaughter," Rubio told Florida attorney John Stemberger, leader of the Florida Family Policy Council, a Christian advocacy group. "One for the child and one for the mother. So we are already, in other areas of the law, recognize that that is a human life worthy of protection of our laws.'" (Vice News, 9/22/22)

- **"Granting Fetuses Full Rights And Protections—A Goal Of The So-Called "Fetal Personhood" Movement That Rubio Appears To Evoke In His Remarks—Could Also, In Some Cases, Mean That Those Rights Would Compete With Or Potentially Even Outstrip Those Of Pregnant People."** "As of 2018, at least 38 states had fetal homicide laws. Under Georgia's post-Roe abortion ban, for example, fetuses can now even be claimed as tax dependents. But granting fetuses full rights and protections—a goal of the so-called "fetal personhood" movement that Rubio appears to evoke in his remarks—could also, in some cases, mean that those rights would compete with or potentially even outstrip those of pregnant people. In Alabama, the first state in the country to adopt a "fetal personhood clause" in its constitution, a woman beat up her coworker, who shot her and ended her pregnancy. The woman was then indicted for manslaughter. (The case was ultimately dropped.) Compared to every other state, more women have now been arrested in Alabama for using drugs during pregnancy, according to reporting by the Marshall Project, the Frontier, and AL.com. "This is not just crazy theorizing," Lynn Paltrow, founder and executive director of National Advocates for Pregnant Women, told VICE News in 2018 of the fight over fetal personhood. "These arguments are already being made and used to control not just abortion but the lives and bodies of pregnant women now.'" (Vice News, 9/22/22)

Extremist Rhetoric And Positions – Criticism Of Abortion Exceptions

In 2022, Rubio "Said That Abortion Ban Exceptions Meant To Protect The Health Of Pregnant People Are "A Massive Loophole.'" "In his comments, captured on video obtained by VICE News, Rubio also said that abortion ban exceptions meant to protect the health of pregnant people are "a massive loophole." "They always say, 'with the exception of life or health of the mother,' and that 'or health' sounds good, but it's very nuanced. It's not throwaway line," he said. "What it means is, some doctor can come forward and say, 'Well, I know it's eight-a-half months, I know that she's due next week, but I think this would be bad for her mental health, I think it would be bad for her spiritual health, for her psychological, if she went ahead.' I mean, it's a massive loophole.'" (Vice News, 9/22/22)

"Rubio Has Previously Said That He Personally Supports Abortion Restrictions That Don't Have Exceptions For Rape And Incest, Although He's Willing To Support Laws That Have Such Exceptions As Long As They Decrease Abortions." "Rubio has previously said that he personally supports abortion restrictions that don't have exceptions for rape and incest, although he's willing to support laws that have such exceptions as long as they decrease abortions. But his remarks represent a new, further-right frontier in the senator's opposition to abortion—especially following the overturning of Roe v. Wade, when abortion bans are no longer a hypothetical possibility but a real restriction on millions of people's ability to end their pregnancies. They also come as many Republicans running for election, like Rubio, are trying to publicly downplay their position on abortion in the wake of the resounding defeat of an anti-abortion constitutional amendment in Kansas." (Vice News, 9/22/22)

- **In 2015, Rubio Rejected Notions That He Had Ever Favored Abortion Exceptions For Rape And Incest.** "During an Aug. 6, 2015, Republican debate in Cleveland, Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly pointed out Rubio favored a rape and incest exception to abortion bans, which Rubio refuted. "I have never said that. And I have never advocated

that," Rubio said. "What I have advocated is that we pass law in this country that says all human life at every stage of its development is worthy of protection. In fact, I think that law already exists. It is called the Constitution of the United States." Rubio reiterated this view after that debate on Glenn Beck's radio show, saying he personally supported banning abortion unless the mother's life was endangered. "Now I recognize that other people don't hold that view, and in order to save lives in this country, I have supported bills that had to have exceptions in them," he told Beck." (Politifact, 9/23/16)

- **However, "Rubio Has Supported Legislation That Contained Rape And Incest Exceptions At Least Twice."** "Now back to running for re-election to the U.S. Senate, Rubio has supported legislation that contained rape and incest exceptions at least twice. Back in November 2013, he was one of 40 cosponsors for a Senate bill called the "Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act." The bill, which stalled in committee, banned abortions at 20 weeks or greater but includes exceptions, including rape and incest. Rubio also cosponsored a similar version in 2015 that required adult women to obtain counseling or medical treatment for the rape 48 hours before the abortion, with separate criteria for minors about reporting the rape to law enforcement." (Politifact, 9/23/16)

Extremist Rhetoric And Positions – Blocking Abortion For Women With Zika

In 2016, Rubio Confirmed That He Would Not Support Allowing Abortion For Women Infected With Zika Even Though The Virus Has Been Seen To Cause Severe Microcephaly In Fetuses. "U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy said Sen. Marco Rubio has a zero-compromise position on abortion. In a new campaign ad that started appearing Sept. 20, 2016, Murphy's campaign said Rubio, the Republican incumbent, refuses to give ground on the issue, even in extenuating circumstances. "Marco Rubio would take away a woman's right to choose for victims of rape or incest," the ad said. It included video of Rubio saying, "I don't require there to be an exception for rape or incest." Murphy has faced criticism that he's a conservative in Democrat's clothing, so his ad touted his own support for abortion. The ad goes on to say Rubio wouldn't allow the procedure for pregnant women with Zika. Rubio has previously confirmed he would oppose allowing a woman who has contracted the virus to abort a fetus that potentially had severe microcephaly. He said he preferred "to err on the side of life" rather than allow the procedure." (Politifact, 9/23/16)

Extremist Rhetoric And Positions – Attacks Of Pro-Choice Advocates

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Called Pro-Choice Advocates "Barbarians" And Murderers Noting "I Think Future Generations Will Look Back At This History Of Our Country And Call Us Barbarians For Murdering Millions Of Babies." (Facebook, 8/6/15)


Fox News
Sen. Marco Rubio on abortion: "I think future generations will look back at this history of our country and call us barbarians for murdering millions of babies..." #GOPDebate
FOX NEWS
29K
2.9K comments 5K shares

(Facebook, 8/6/15)

COVID And Vaccination

Vaccine: COVID – Personal

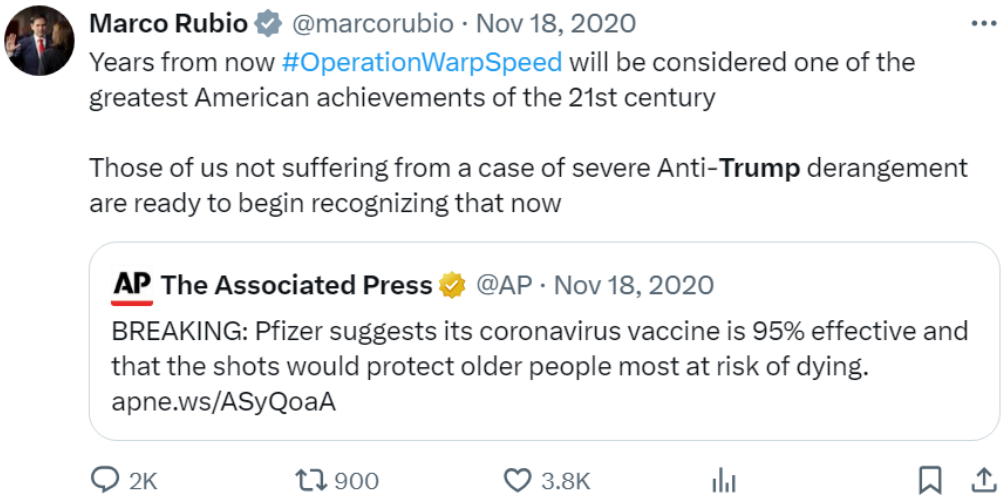
VIDEO: In December 2021, Rubio Noted That He Was Vaccinated Against COVID. (Fox News, 12/2/21)



(Fox News, 12/2/21)

Vaccine: COVID – Promotion

Rubio, In November 2020: "Years From Now #Operationwarpspeed Will Be Considered One Of The Greatest American Achievements Of The 21st Century." (Twitter, 11/18/20)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Nov 18, 2020
Years from now #OperationWarpSpeed will be considered one of the greatest American achievements of the 21st century
Those of us not suffering from a case of severe Anti-Trump derangement are ready to begin recognizing that now
The Associated Press @AP · Nov 18, 2020
BREAKING: Pfizer suggests its coronavirus vaccine is 95% effective and that the shots would protect older people most at risk of dying. apne.ws/ASyQoaA
2K
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3.8K

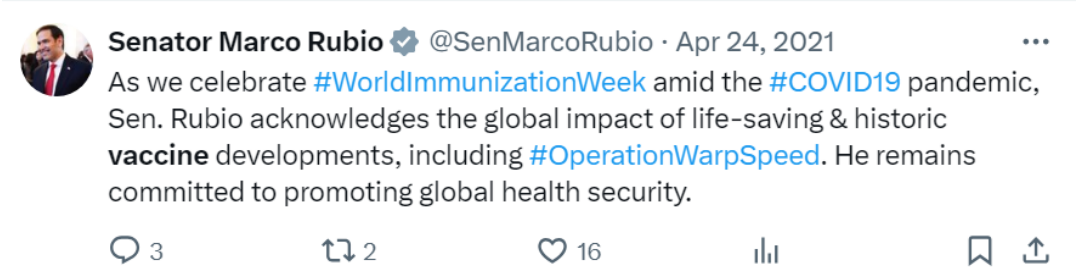
(Twitter, 11/18/20)

In December 2020, Rubio Praised Operation Warp Speed As An "Unprecedented Achievement That Did What Many Experts Doubted Could Be Done, Produce An Effective Vaccine For #Covid19 In Less Than 7 Months." (Twitter, 12/13/20)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Dec 13, 2020
Because of their deranged hatred of @realdonaldtrump many in legacy media will never give him credit for #OperationWarpSpeed an unprecedented achievement that did what many experts doubted could be done,produce an effective vaccine for #Covid19 in less than 7 months
Detroit Free Press @freep · Dec 13, 2020
Minutes ago, trucks filled with #coronavirus vaccines departed the @pfizer facility in Portage, Mich., headed for distribution centers and airports. Crowds who gathered outside the facility cheered the departing @FedEx and @UPS trucks. bit.ly/3gHr1oV

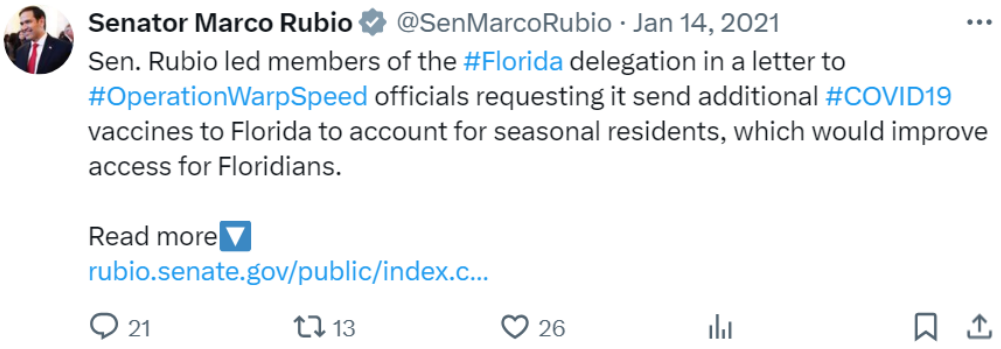
(Twitter, 12/13/20)

Rubio, In April 2021: "As We Celebrate #Worldimmunizationweek Amid The #COVID19 Pandemic, Sen. Rubio Acknowledges The Global Impact Of Life-Saving & Historic Vaccine Developments, Including #Operationwarpspeed. He Remains Committed To Promoting Global Health Security." (Twitter, 4/24/21)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Apr 24, 2021
As we celebrate #WorldImmunizationWeek amid the #COVID19 pandemic, Sen. Rubio acknowledges the global impact of life-saving & historic vaccine developments, including #OperationWarpSpeed. He remains committed to promoting global health security.
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(Twitter, 4/24/21)

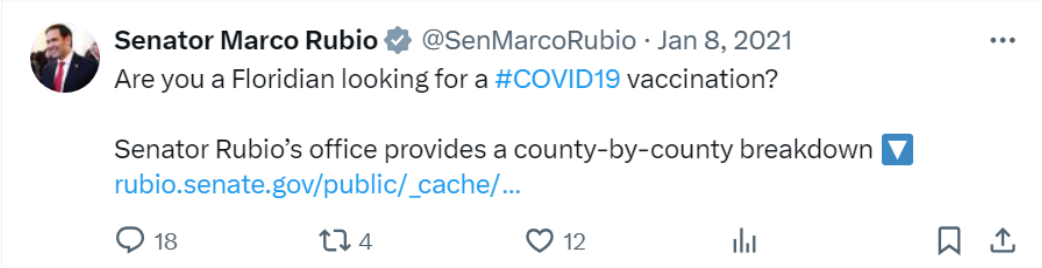
Rubio Is Known To Have Repeatedly Promoted The COVID Vaccine And Vaccination Programs For Floridians During The Pandemic. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 14, 2021
Sen. Rubio led members of the #Florida delegation in a letter to #OperationWarpSpeed officials requesting it send additional #COVID19 vaccines to Florida to account for seasonal residents, which would improve access for Floridians.
Read more
rubio.senate.gov/public/index.c...
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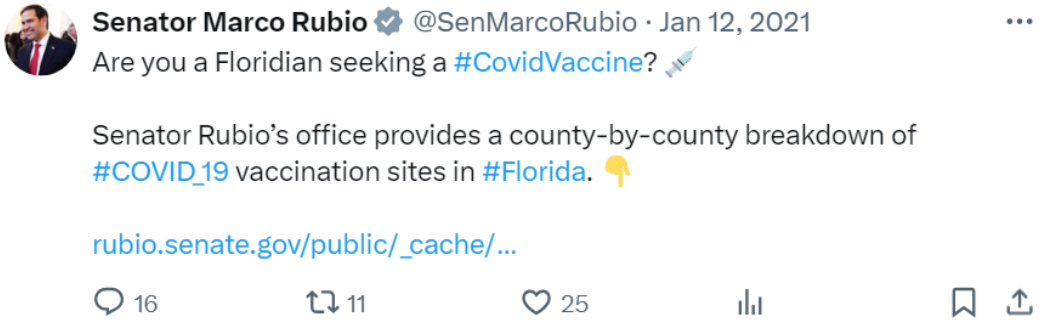
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Mar 8, 2021
The federal vaccination site in #Miami is offering FREE walk-up #COVID19 vaccines to the following populations:
Persons aged 65+
Health care personnel w/ direct patients
K-12 school employees aged 50+
Sworn law enforcement officers aged 50+
Firefighters aged 50+
COVID-19 VACCINATION SITE
Walk-Ups Accepted
Free COVID-19 vaccines available

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 8, 2021
Are you a Floridian looking for a #COVID19 vaccination?
Senator Rubio's office provides a county-by-county breakdown
rubio.senate.gov/public/_cache/...
18
4
12

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 12, 2021
Are you a Floridian seeking a #CovidVaccine?
Senator Rubio's office provides a county-by-county breakdown of
#COVID19 vaccination sites in #Florida.
rubio.senate.gov/public/_cache/...
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(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

Childhood Vaccination And Criticism Of Unvaccinated People

In 2015, "Sen. Marco Rubio Of Florida, Who Is Also Weighing A Presidential Run, Was Unequivocal: Children Should "Absolutely" Be Vaccinated And The Practice Should "Absolutely" Be Mandatory, He Said Tuesday." "Cruz added in a statement that vaccines "have tremendous public health benefits." "But on the question of whether kids should be vaccinated, the answer is obvious, and there's widespread agreement: of course they should. We vaccinate both our girls, and encourage all parents to do the same," Cruz said. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, who is also weighing a presidential run, was unequivocal: children should "absolutely" be vaccinated and the practice should "absolutely" be mandatory, he said Tuesday. Rubio added to the heap of doctors and experts who assert there is no link between vaccinations." (CNN, 2/2/15)

"Unvaccinated People, Rubio Added, Put Infants At Risk." "And unvaccinated people, Rubio added, put infants at risk. "If enough people are not vaccinated you put at risk infants that are three months of age or younger that have not been vaccinated, and you put at risk immune-suppressed children that are not able to get those vaccinations," Rubio said. "So absolutely, all children in America [should be vaccinated].'" (CNN, 2/2/15)

Drugs

Marijuana: Medical – Support

In 2014, Rubio Noted He Was Open To Medical Marijuana. "Sen. Marco Rubio said he supports the legalization of some strains of marijuana, such as one recently approved by Florida's Legislature, for legitimate pain management. But he does not support the state ballot initiative, which he called a "ruse" to allow people to access the drug to get high. "If there is a

medical condition that can be treated or alleviated through the use of medicinal marijuana, that's something that I'd be open to," Rubio, R-Fla., said Wednesday. Last month, Gov. Rick Scott signed into law a bill that permits Floridians to use a "non-euphoric" strain of marijuana to treat conditions such as severe epilepsy, Lou Gehrig's disease and to alleviate pain from cancer. "What I'm concerned about and I'm not sure how this law in Florida would apply to, is to the ruse of medicinal marijuana for purposes of allowing people to buy a joint and smoke it," Rubio said. Medical marijuana laws have been abused in other states, he said. Rubio said he would support the use of strains "that don't have elements that are mind-altering or create the high." Rubio further clarified his support for medicinal marijuana only "without creating the specter of widespread recreational use." Most people would be supportive of that, he said." (*Palm Beach Post*, 7/31/14)

LGBTQ (Electability Issues)

Gay Marriage – Oppose

Rubio Is Known To Have Been Opposed To Gay Marriage. "Abortion: Pro-life. Supports bill to require doctors to perform an ultrasound before an abortion. Gay marriage: Opposes it. Immigration: Supports Arizona's immigration bill, opposed counting illegal immigrants in the U.S. Census. Off-shore drilling: In favor of oil drilling off Florida coasts. Stem cell research: Would ban taxpayer dollars to pay for stem cell research. Supreme Court nominees: Opposed Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

In 2014, "Rubio Acknowledged Growing Public Support For Same-Sex Marriage And Said States Should Decide. To That Extent, He Is Willing To Put Aside His Own Moral Views If A State's Voters See Otherwise." "A fresh example of the Rubio dichotomy came last month at Catholic University in Washington. Near the end of a speech on policies emphasizing family values — itself a study in nuance — Rubio turned to gay marriage. He adamantly said he believes it should be between a man and a woman and bashed "intolerant" critics of traditionalists. But Rubio acknowledged growing public support for same-sex marriage and said states should decide. To that extent, he is willing to put aside his own moral views if a state's voters see otherwise. "Many committed gay and lesbian couples feel humiliated by the law's failure to recognize their relationship as a marriage," Rubio said. "And supporters of same-sex marriage argue that laws banning same-sex marriage are discrimination. I respect their arguments. And I would concede that they pose a legitimate question for lawmakers and for society." News coverage was confusing, some reporters playing up the angle that Rubio was courting religious conservatives in places such as Iowa and South Carolina, two early presidential testing grounds, and others taking note of the more inclusive tone. "He definitely seems to want it both ways and talks a good game in terms of wanting you to have warm thoughts about him," said Fred Sainz of Human Rights Campaign. "But at the end of the day, if he had to choose up sides, he chooses on the wrong side of history." Public support for gay marriage is growing nationally, especially among young voters, one of the key demographics the GOP needs attract. Rubio last week waded into the marijuana debate, saying he supported the use of noneuphoric strains for medical needs. Another small step to the middle." (*Tampa Bay Times*, 8/1/14)

In 2015, "Rubio Disagreed With The Supreme Court Decision Legalizing Same-Sex Unions In All Fifty States But Said That Americans Must Abide By The Ruling. Personally, The Florida Senator Told CNN That He Believes Marriage Is Between A Man And A Woman." (PBS, 4/13/15)

In 2022, Rubio "Told CNN That A Vote On A Bill To Codify Same-Sex Marriage Was A "Stupid Waste Of Time.'" "As he was walking on an elevator on Wednesday, GOP Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida told CNN that a vote on a bill to codify same-sex marriage was a "stupid waste of time." But when he said that, there was another senator on the elevator who heard him: Sen. Tammy Baldwin, the Wisconsin Democrat who is also the first known gay politician elected to the US Senate. "You probably would have loved to be on the elevator to see the exchange after," Baldwin told CNN on Thursday, adding: "of course I did" speak to him about the remark. "I said that, 'The recent Supreme Court decision eroded a constitutional right to privacy. There's a whole bunch of cases that have been decided based on a constitutional right to privacy that are in jeopardy,' which he disagrees with. And anyways, I said we'll be talking some more," she said. Baldwin did not reveal what Rubio said in response. She also would not say if she was offended by his remark. "We're not going to get into (that)," Baldwin said. "I'm counting votes." Baldwin also predicted they would have 10 GOP votes to break a filibuster attempt when the bill eventually heads the floor. Rubio and other Republican senators argued that the bill is "unnecessary" because there's no threat to same-sex marriage, as the majority Supreme Court opinion from Justice Samuel Alito attempted to wall off its ruling on abortion from other rulings involving the right to privacy like same-sex marriage. In a separate concurrent opinion, however, Justice Clarence Thomas wrote separately to call explicitly for those other rulings to be revisited." (CNN, 7/21/22)

Gay Foster Parenting – Oppose

In 2006, Rubio Opposed Proposals To Allow For Gay Foster Parents And Derided The Proposal As A "Social Experiment" On Children. "Marco Rubio is having a moment for some reason. Sure, the Florida senator and Republican presidential hopeful is running a distant third and has only picked up a single point in the polls since October. But an influential pocket of the punditry decided long ago that Rubio is the invisible front-runner, the candidate who will surge when Donald Trump and Ted Cruz do whatever Alien and Predator did to each other at the end of Alien vs. Predator. Since Rubio has been anointed the establishment candidate, able to bridge the rabid base and the moderate moneymen, it is probably worth noting that he is strikingly anti-gay—much more so than Trump, and at least as much as Cruz. The story of Rubio's homophobic misdeeds reaches back to 2006. Florida's foster care system was in crisis. Faced with too many children and too few foster parents, the Department of Children and Family Services allowed a contractor to force abused and neglected children to sleep on the floor of a conference room at a DCF building for several days. These children had suffered severe physical harm and psychological trauma before entering the foster system—and DCF made them live and sleep in a conference room together without beds, bedding, supervision, medical care, sanitary bathrooms, or adequate food. (The children, represented by an attorney, successfully sued DCF shortly thereafter.) Obviously, DCF's actions were inexcusable: The agency essentially permitted children to be imprisoned in inhumane conditions. (I've visited the building where the children

were kept. It is not dissimilar to a minimum-security prison.) But the scandal raised a broader issue: Florida simply didn't have enough foster parents to take in all these abused and abandoned children. What to do? One option frequently floated was to expand the pool of potential fosterers and adopters by allowing same-sex couples to take in children. The Florida legislature banned gay adoption in 1977, but times had changed, and the pressure on the foster care system had grown untenable. Would the legislature reconsider the ban? Rubio, who was then serving as the Florida House majority leader, instantly and emphatically quashed the idea. "Some of these kids are the most disadvantaged in the state," he said. "They shouldn't be forced to be part of a social experiment." Rubio, in other words, would rather see the children languish in the flawed foster care system than allow same-sex couples to take them in. The ban remained in effect until 2010, when a court finally struck it down." (Slate, 12/15/15)

Race

Black Lives Matter/ BLM

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Offers Some Support For The BLM Movement Noting That It Is Rallying Against A "Legitimate Issue" Regarding Discrimination In The Criminal Justice System. (YouTube, 8/13/15)



(YouTube, 8/13/15)

Systemic Racism

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Offers Support For Black Americans And Acknowledges That The Bias Against Black Americans In The Criminal Justice System And Law Enforcement. (YouTube, 8/13/15)



(YouTube, 8/13/15)

Apology For Slavery

In April 2007, Rubio Noted That An Apology For Slavery Resolution "Would Merit Discussion." "Nearly 142 years after Florida's slaves first tasted freedom, state leaders say the time may soon be right to apologize for Florida's role in their bondage. In 1860, at the outbreak of the Civil War, 44 percent of Florida's population -- or nearly 62,000 out of 140,424 people -- were slaves. Florida's miles of uninhabited coast and hidden harbors also were a haven for slavers. Although officially banned by the federal government in 1803, the trans-Atlantic slave trade continued to prosper by landing slaves in Florida and then smuggling them into other states. "There were a lot of atrocities that happened in Florida," said Sen. Tony Hill, D-Jacksonville, chairman of Florida's Legislative Black Caucus. Hill had considered asking fellow state lawmakers to face the issue during the final weeks of their annual session, scheduled to end May 4. But with so little time left, and major issues such as property-tax relief and the budget still to be resolved, he plans to wait until next year. And at least among the Legislature's top leaders, his request is likely to get a warm reception. "Obviously, slavery was one of the darkest periods in American history, one of the saddest and most tragic," said House Speaker Marco Rubio, R-West Miami. "I think it would merit discussion. There aren't a lot of defenders of slavery left." Senate President Ken Pruitt, a Civil War history buff, said he would be "very supportive" of an attempt to address Florida's role in condoning the institution of slavery. "While it is historic, it is repugnant," said Pruitt, R-Port St. Lucie. Through a push by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and black legislators, several Southern and border states this year have publicly begun to face their role in the enslavement of Africans and their descendants, an institution that helped ignite the four-year war between the states. No state has yet issued an apology, but Virginia expressed its "profound regret" in February. Similar bills have passed in Maryland and North Carolina. Legislation is pending in Alabama, Georgia and Missouri. And reparations may be considered in Mississippi. Margaret Newton of Boynton Beach, who directs the African and African-American Studies Office for Palm Beach County

public schools, said it is important for Florida to recognize and acknowledge wrongdoings. "I would hope that once you start to apologize, you come to grips with the past so it won't be repeated, so it won't happen again," she said." (*Orlando Sentinel*, 4/18/07)

In March 2008, Rubio Underscored His Support For The Slavery Apology Resolution Noting "Expressions Of Regret Are Symbolic, But They Are Important." "More than 140 years after slavery thrived in Florida, some lawmakers from both parties believe now is time for the state Legislature to apologize. Democratic Sen. Tony Hill, working since last year with Republican Senate President Ken Pruitt, will propose a resolution in which the Legislature formally apologizes for the history of slavery in this state. "Black folks have come so far in this country, to come from slavery to a Democratic nominee for president," said Sen. Gary Siplin, D-Orlando. He filed legislation seeking a similar apology but vowed to work for Hill's version. "This apology is the right thing to do." Exact language isn't yet available, and it's not clear if the House leadership will sign on to the plan. But Pruitt's spokeswoman confirmed his interest, and House Speaker Marco Rubio said he generally supports the idea. "Expressions of regret are symbolic, but they are important," Rubio said. Whether the proposal will encounter opposition is unclear. None has emerged so far, and politically it's not necessarily prudent to oppose such a measure. The proposal echoes similar moves by other states, including New Jersey, Alabama, North Carolina and Virginia. The New Jersey Assembly in January passed a resolution expressing "profound regret" for the state's role in slavery. Hill's resolution would be the first of its kind in Florida, and the fact that Pruitt has been involved could boost its chances of passing. Hill, a union organizer from Jacksonville, said he was inspired to push the matter in part by the 2006 film Amazing Grace. The movie is based on the life of William Wilberforce, who fought in the British Parliament to end the slave trade in the British Empire. Hill said he and Pruitt, who works in real estate in Port St. Lucie, have discussed the film, which Hill called moving. Slavery in Florida dates back to the late 1500s, when the Spanish used slaves to build forts. Centuries later, slave use moved to the state's agriculture economy. The British imported slaves to Florida between 1763 and 1783, and the coastline was a popular dock for ships carrying slaves intended for other states. The practice grew after Florida became a U.S. territory in the early 1800s and plantation owners from Virginia, the Carolinas and other Southern states moved their operations - and their slaves - to Florida's cheaper land, primarily in the Panhandle. By 1860, there were nearly 62,000 slaves - 44 percent of the state population. "It's time for us to move forward," said Sen. Frederica Wilson, D-Miami, a member of the black caucus. "And the only way for us to do that is to say, 'We made a mistake.' Until we do that, the racial divide in Florida remains strong." Hill's plan was the second race-relations issue to come to the fore as the annual legislative session opened Tuesday. Rubio, in his opening remarks, told lawmakers he wants to address "the tragic tale of what is happening to young African-American males." "It is intolerable and unacceptable that an entire segment of our population has come to believe that the American dream is not available to them," Rubio said. "And we can never be the nation God intended us to be so long as this tragedy persists." Meanwhile, House Rep. Don Brown, R-DeFuniak Springs, wants to create a Confederate flag license plate honoring "Confederate heritage." He told the St. Petersburg Times he just wants to honor a part of history - much like honoring Martin Luther King Jr. by naming a street after him." (*Tampa Bay Times*, 3/5/08)

In March 2008, While Serving As Florida House Speaker, Rubio Oversaw Passage Of A Resolution "Expressing "Profound Regret For The Involuntary Servitude Of Africans, And Calling For Reconciliation Among All Floridians.'" "More than 140 years after a former Florida governor described Africans as "a wild barbarian to be tamed and civilized," the Legislature on Wednesday apologized for the state's role in sanctioning slavery. The House and Senate approved a resolution expressing "profound regret for the involuntary servitude of Africans, and calling for reconciliation among all Floridians." There was no discussion before the unanimous voice votes, but the reading of the resolution — which described how slaves' ears were nailed to posts during whippings — brought some lawmakers, including Tampa Sen. Arthenia Joyner, to tears. "It was painful," said Joyner, a Democrat and black caucus member. "I tried to imagine myself under those circumstances. I mean, I know how incensed I got in the '60s just knowing I couldn't get into a movie!" Gov. Charlie Crist, affectionately dubbed "Florida's first black governor" by some black lawmakers, visited the Senate chamber to watch the vote. In the House, Speaker Marco Rubio, R-West Miami, took the unusual step of ordering all members to their seats. And in a rare appearance, Senate President Ken Pruitt, R-Port St. Lucie, sat at Rubio's side. "This was as sincere and as meaningful an apology as could be given," Pruitt said. "It was important for the words to stand on their own." The resolution did not address reparations. Crist appeared to be open to such efforts if slave descendancy could be established. "Certainly, it's something you'd like to be able to do," he said. But one black lawmaker, Sen. Al Lawson, said reparations are unlikely because they are controversial and they would cost the state so much. "But I appreciate the governor's comment," said Lawson, D-Tallahassee. As news of the vote spread Thursday, public reaction on the St. Petersburg Times' Web site, tampabay.com, varied. Some readers accused lawmakers of "wasting" time and questioned why an apology was needed when all slave owners were dead. Others said it wasn't enough; reparations are in order. Some commended lawmakers, saying they hoped it would help heal society's racial strife. With Wednesday's vote, Florida joins five other states — Alabama, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina and New Jersey — that have apologized for slavery." (*Tampa Bay Times*, 3/26/08)

Religion

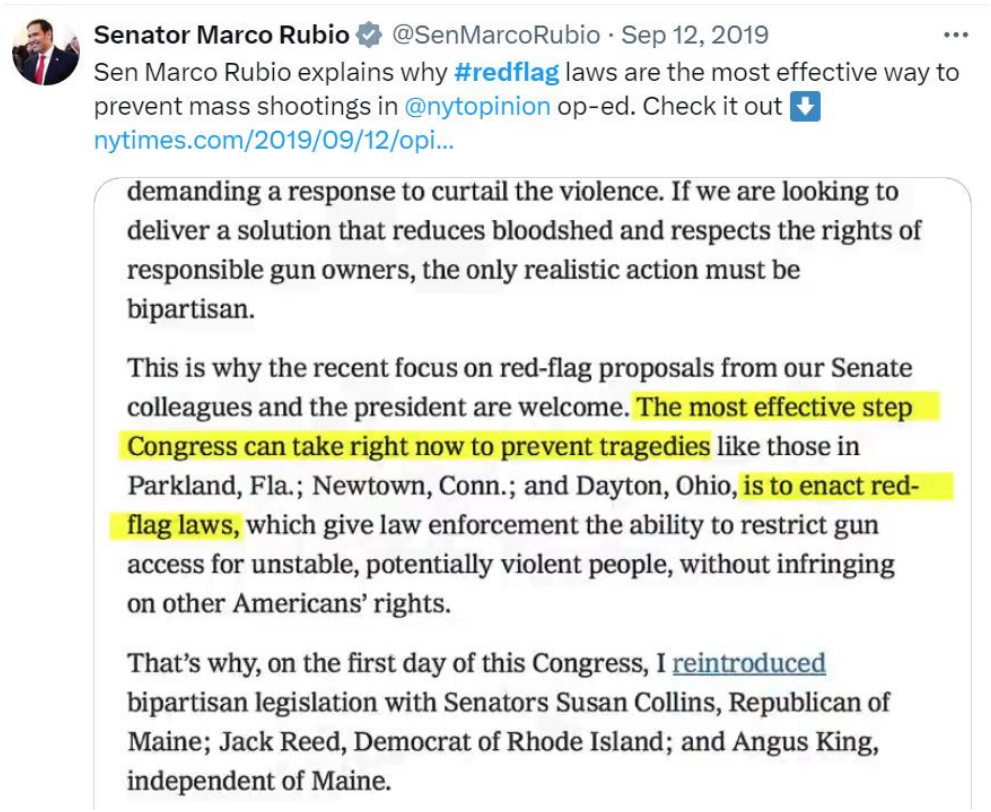
Religious Freedom Restoration Act

"Holding A Nuanced Position On Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act, Rubio Believes Some Kinds Of Businesses, Like Wedding Photography, Should Be Allowed To Turn Away Gay Customers, And Others, Like Hotels, Should Not." "Rubio disagreed with the Supreme Court decision legalizing same-sex unions in all fifty states but said that Americans must abide by the ruling. Personally, the Florida senator told CNN that he believes marriage is between a man and a woman. Holding a nuanced position on Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act, Rubio believes some kinds of businesses, like wedding photography, should be allowed to turn away gay customers, and others, like hotels, should not." (PBS, 4/13/15)

Second Amendment

Gun Control: Red Flag Laws – Support

VIDEO: In 2019, Rubio Posted A Video Touting His Op-Ed In The New York Times Arguing That Enacting Federal Red Flag Laws Were The "Most Effective" WAY To Prevent Mass Shootings. (Twitter, 9/12/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Sep 12, 2019
Sen Marco Rubio explains why #redflag laws are the most effective way to prevent mass shootings in @nytopinion op-ed. Check it out
nytimes.com/2019/09/12/opi...
demanding a response to curtail the violence. If we are looking to deliver a solution that reduces bloodshed and respects the rights of responsible gun owners, the only realistic action must be bipartisan.
This is why the recent focus on red-flag proposals from our Senate colleagues and the president are welcome. The most effective step Congress can take right now to prevent tragedies like those in Parkland, Fla.; Newtown, Conn.; and Dayton, Ohio, is to enact red-flag laws, which give law enforcement the ability to restrict gun access for unstable, potentially violent people, without infringing on other Americans' rights.
That's why, on the first day of this Congress, I reintroduced bipartisan legislation with Senators Susan Collins, Republican of Maine; Jack Reed, Democrat of Rhode Island; and Angus King, independent of Maine.

(Twitter, 9/12/19)

- **Rubio Promoted His Legislation To Enact A Federal Red Flag Law And Praised Other Bills For Offering Incentives For States To Enact Red Flag Laws.** "This is why the recent focus on red-flag proposals from our Senate colleagues and the president are welcome. The most effective step Congress can take right now to prevent tragedies like those in Parkland, Fla.; Newtown, Conn.; and Dayton, Ohio, is to enact red-flag laws, which give law enforcement the ability to restrict gun access for unstable, potentially violent people, without infringing on other Americans' rights. That's why, on the first day of this Congress, I reintroduced bipartisan legislation with Senators Susan Collins, Republican of Maine; Jack Reed, Democrat of Rhode Island; and Angus King, independent of Maine. We can see the consensus around red-flag legislation developing in real time. I commend Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina, and Senator Richard Blumenthal, Democrat of Connecticut, who have publicly voiced support for enacting a law that would provide financial incentives to states to adopt red-flag laws. Our bill does exactly that." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The New York Times*, 9/12/19)

- **Rubio: "Red-Flag Laws Empower Law Enforcement Or Family Members To Use The Judicial System To Keep Guns Out Of The Hands Of Dangerous Individuals."** "Red-flag laws empower law enforcement or family members to use the judicial system to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals. In Florida, when a concerned family member contacts the police about a person determined to be a threat to himself or others, the police can petition a judge to have his guns taken away for two weeks. After an additional hearing, the risk protection order can be extended for up to a year. The laws do not infringe on the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding gun owners. In order for a state to be eligible for funding under our proposal, it would be required to enact strong due process protections and include a felony penalty for false reporting." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The New York Times*, 9/12/19)

In 2021, Rubio Proposed Legislation That "Would Give Grants To States To Adopt And Implement What Are Known As Extreme-Risk Protection-Order Laws, Or "Red Flag" Laws. Under The Bill, A Court Could Order The Immediate Confiscation Of A Person's Guns On An Emergency Basis If The Person Is Judged To Be A "Significant Danger" To Himself Or Herself, Or To Others, "In The Near Future."'" "A bipartisan bill aimed at helping states curb gun violence is under attack from a national gun rights group claiming that it calls for confiscation of weapons "based on unsubstantiated accusations" and "without due process." The attack on the bill and its lead sponsor, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., is made in an image shared on Facebook by the National Association for Gun Rights. The Colorado-based advocacy group has more than 4 million followers on Facebook. The post was flagged as part of Facebook's efforts to combat false news and misinformation on its News Feed. (Read more about our partnership with Facebook.) Rubio's bill would give grants to states to adopt and implement what are known as extreme-risk protection-order laws, or "red flag" laws. Under the bill, a court could order the immediate confiscation of a person's guns on an emergency basis if the person is judged to be a "significant danger" to himself or herself, or to others, "in the near future.'" (Politifact, 3/4/21)

- **"Rubio Introduced… On Feb. 8, 2021. S.292, The Extreme Risk Protection Order And Violence Prevention Act, Is Cosponsored By Sens. Rick Scott, R-Fla.; Jack Reed, D-R.I.; And Angus King, I-Maine."** "Rubio introduced a new version on Feb. 8, 2021. S.292, the Extreme Risk Protection Order and Violence Prevention Act, is cosponsored by Sens. Rick Scott, R-Fla.; Jack Reed, D-R.I.; and Angus King, I-Maine. The bill was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee, but no other action has been taken. Florida is among states that already have red flag laws; it took effect in March 2018." (Politifact, 3/4/21)

"This Is Rubio's Second Time Proposing A Red Flag Bill. The First Was A Month After The Feb. 14, 2018, Shooting At Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School In Parkland…" " This is Rubio's second time proposing a red flag bill. The first was a month after the Feb. 14, 2018, shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., in which a 19-year-old former student with a semi-automatic rifle killed 17 people and injured 14 more. News stories reported that there had been warning signs about the shooter, including calls about him to 911 and the FBI, threatening statements he allegedly made and the fact he had a gun. The original bill did not come up for a vote." (Politifact, 3/4/21)

- **VIDEO: In 2018, Rubio Unveiled His Red Flag Legislation With Democratic Sens. Bill Nelson And Jack Reed.** (Twitter, 3/23/18)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Mar 23, 2018
NEW VIDEO: My bipartisan 'red flag' bill encourages states to keep firearms out of the hands of dangerous people while still providing due process. My bill encourages states to do what #Florida and 5 other states have already done. #Sayfie
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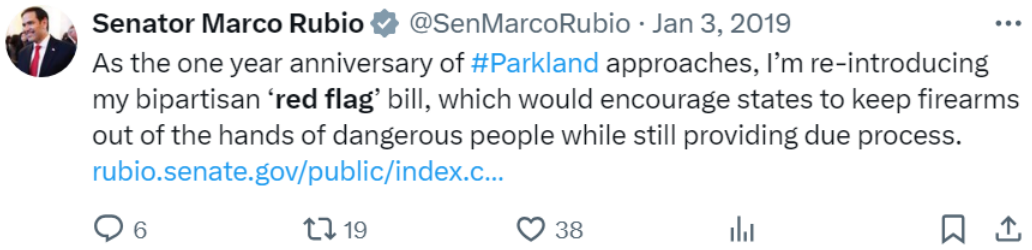
(Twitter, 3/23/18)

- **AUDIO: In 2019, Rubio Noted That His Red Flag Bill Was Based Off A Similar Model That Has Been Used In "Los Angeles."** (Twitter, 8/7/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Aug 7, 2019
We have bipartisan solutions that can keep people from hurting themselves and potentially others. Listen to learn more about my 'Red Flag' bill
marco RUBIO
US SENATOR for FLORIDA
SENATOR RUBIO
IT'S A MODEL THAT WE LEARNED FROM LOS ANGELES. BECAUSE IN ADDITION TO BEING ABLE TO HAVE THE TOOL TO REMOVE FIREARMS AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS
0:35 / 0:58
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(Twitter, 8/7/19)

- **In 2019, Rubio Noted "As The One Year Anniversary Of #Parkland Approaches, I'm Re-Introducing My Bipartisan 'Red Flag' Bill, Which Would Encourage States To Keep Firearms Out Of The Hands Of Dangerous People While Still Providing Due Process."** (Twitter, 1/3/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 3, 2019
As the one year anniversary of #Parkland approaches, I'm re-introducing my bipartisan 'red flag' bill, which would encourage states to keep firearms out of the hands of dangerous people while still providing due process.
rubio.senate.gov/public/index.c...
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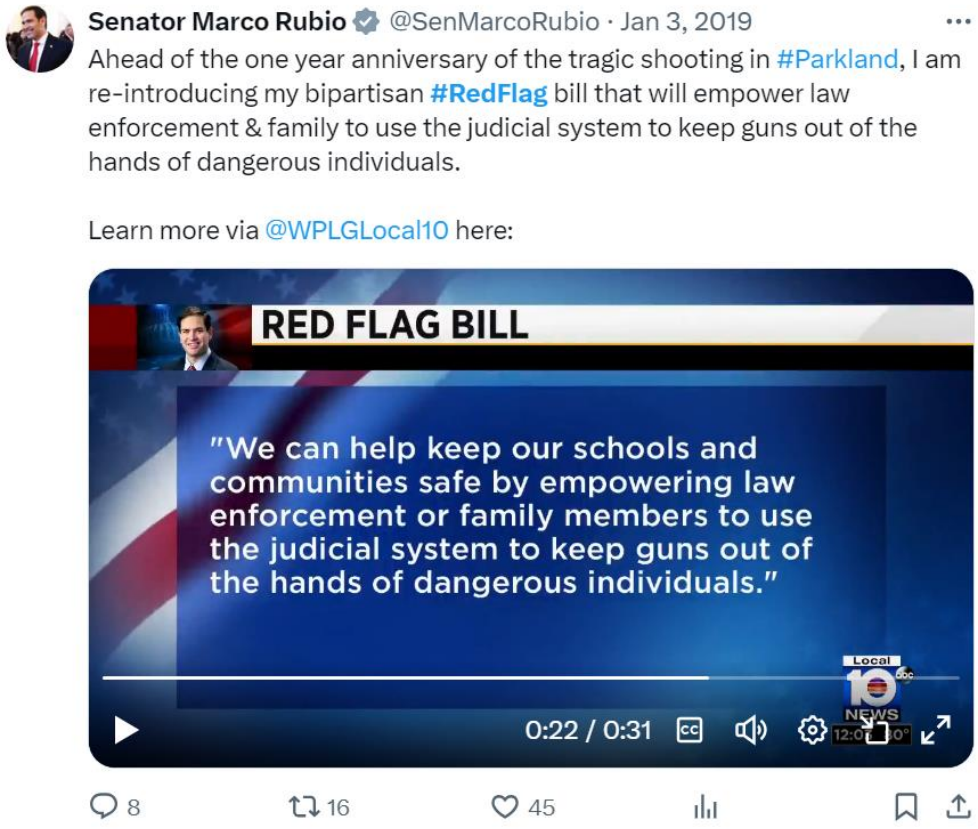
(Twitter, 1/3/19)

  - **VIDEO: In August 2019, Rubio Touted His Red Flag Law Contending That It Would Keep Communities Safe.** (Twitter, 8/19/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Aug 19, 2019
Senator Marco Rubio sat down with @wjxt4 to discuss his "Red Flag" legislation.
✅Keeps our communities safe
✅Protects the constitutional rights of law abiding gun owners.
Read about it here rubio.senate.gov/public/index.c...
This Week in JACKSONVILLE
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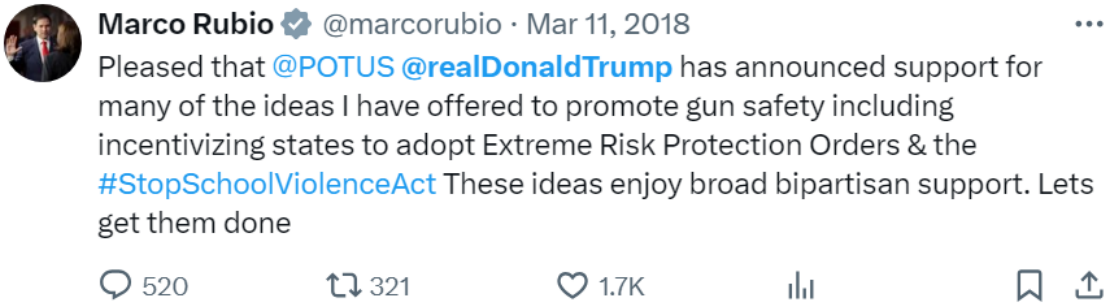
(Twitter, 8/19/19)

  - **VIDEO: Rubio Promoted News Coverage Of Efforts To Reintroduce His Red Flag Gun Law In 2019.** (Twitter, 1/3/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 3, 2019
Ahead of the one year anniversary of the tragic shooting in #Parkland, I am re-introducing my bipartisan #RedFlag bill that will empower law enforcement & family to use the judicial system to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals.
Learn more via @WPLGLocal10 here:
RED FLAG BILL
"We can help keep our schools and communities safe by empowering law enforcement or family members to use the judicial system to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals."
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(Twitter, 1/3/19)

Rubio, In 2018: "Pleased That @POTUS @Realdonaldtrump Has Announced Support For Many Of The Ideas I Have Offered To Promote Gun Safety Including Incentivizing States To Adopt Extreme Risk Protection Orders & The #Stopschoolviolenceact These Ideas Enjoy Broad Bipartisan Support. Lets Get Them Done." (Twitter, 3/11/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 11, 2018
Pleased that @POTUS @realDonaldTrump has announced support for many of the ideas I have offered to promote gun safety including incentivizing states to adopt Extreme Risk Protection Orders & the #StopSchoolViolenceAct These ideas enjoy broad bipartisan support. Lets get them done
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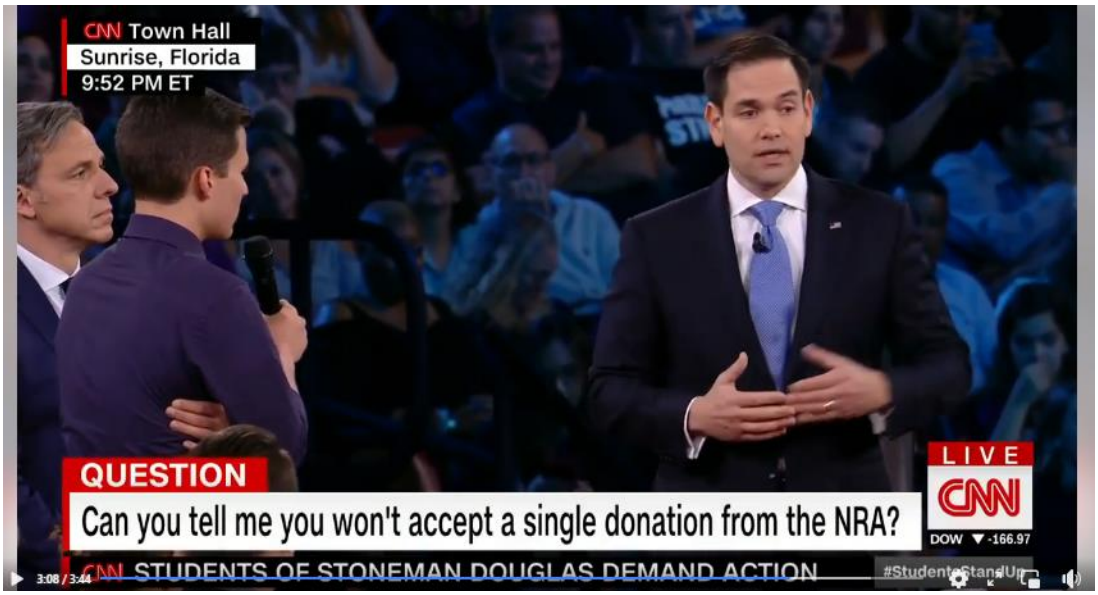
(Twitter, 3/11/18)

Hypocritically, In 2015, Rubio Argued "Gun Laws Have Never Worked And Is Urging Fellow Republicans To Defend Second Amendment Rights." "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) says gun laws have never worked and is urging fellow Republicans to defend Second Amendment rights. "We must always be the party that protects the Second Amendment," the 2016 contender said during the Sunshine Summit in Orlando on Friday. "Gun laws fail

everywhere they're tried," he added. "Law-abiding people follow the laws, while criminals don't. "The nation already has a Democrat Party [and] we don't need two Democrat Parties," he continued. In his address, Rubio offered a broad criticism of government. "We know that every issue does not have its solution in government," he said. "We were never supposed to have the government involved in K-12 education [and] that's why we don't need Common Core. "There is no replacement for the family," he continued. "It is the original government [and] the best school. "Government cannot make you a better family member, a better husband or a better wife," he added. "You can't have a strong people without strong values. Government cannot remove that from you." Rubio also highlighted religious liberty, which he said was under threat from the federal government. "We have a government that increasingly targets the faith community in this nation," he said. "We have a tax code that discourages marriage. "I will have a Justice Department that defends the rights and liberties of every single American. The only way forward is to re-embrace the principles that originally made us a great nation," he added. Rubio is currently among the top three contenders for next year's Republican presidential nomination, according to the latest RealClearPolitics average of polls. Gun control is becoming a contentious issue on the 2016 trail after a string of recent mass shootings." (The Hill, 11/13/15)

Gun Control: Raising Assault Weapon Purchase Age – Support

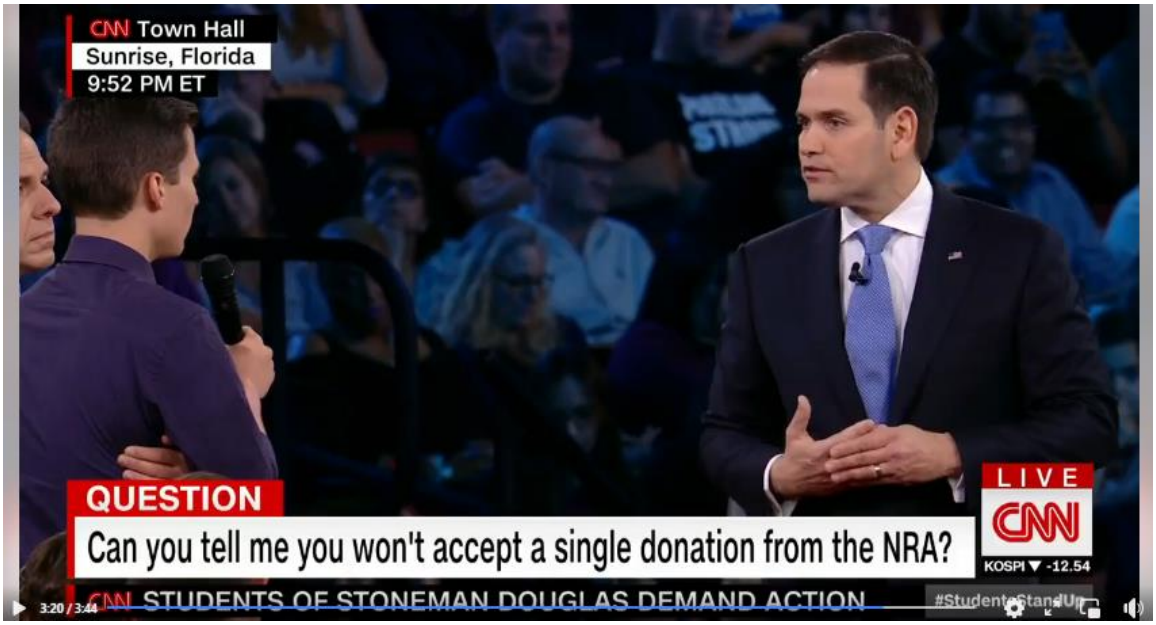
VIDEO: Rubio, In 2018: "I Support Lifting The Age From 18 To 21 For Buying A Rifle." (Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:00)



(Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:00)

Gun Control: Armed Teachers – Oppose

VIDEO: Rubio, In 2018: "I Don't Know What Their (The NRA) Position Is On Teachers Being Armed. But I Don't Think They Should Be Because That's What I Think The Right Thing To Do Is." (Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:10)



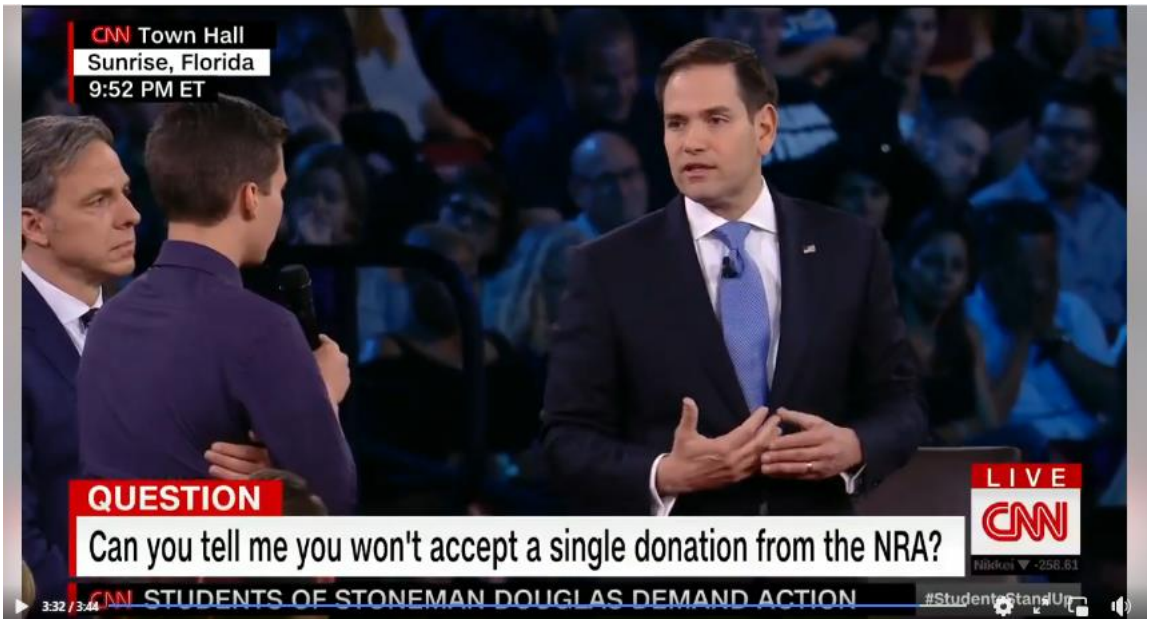
(Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:10)

Gun Control: Banning Individuals Who Have Been On The Terror Watch List For 10 Years From Owning A Gun – Support

In 2016, Rubio Introduced Legislation "That Would Make It Harder For Suspected Terrorists To Purchase Firearms And Easier For Law Enforcement Agencies To Go After Suspected Terrorists, While Safeguarding Law-Abiding Citizens' Second Amendment And Due Process Rights." "U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) introduced legislation today that would make it harder for suspected terrorists to purchase firearms and easier for law enforcement agencies to go after suspected terrorists, while safeguarding law-abiding citizens' Second Amendment and due process rights. Rubio's bill, the Terror Intelligence Improvement Act, strengthens and improves proposals introduced in the U.S. Senate following the June 12th terrorist attack at Pulse night club in Orlando, Florida. "After the Orlando terrorist attack, I met with Fred and Maria Wright, who shared with me the story of their son Jerry and the unimaginable pain they carry after losing him that night," said Rubio. "The Wrights made a simple request: that we improve our laws so it is more difficult for evil people to get ahold of guns. I told them I would continue working toward consensus on common-sense measures that would help ensure criminals, terrorists and others seeking to take innocent lives are not able to acquire firearms." "Today, I'm taking another step toward fulfilling my promise to the Wright family, by introducing legislation that builds on some of the best ideas that have been proposed, and improves them in ways that I hope will make a bipartisan solution more likely," Rubio continued. "This bill would achieve everyone's goal of making it harder for suspected terrorists to buy guns, and do so without violating the due process and Second Amendment rights of innocent, law-abiding Americans." Rubio's Terror Intelligence Improvement Act would: Consolidate all federal terrorism investigation intelligence under the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), strengthening the FBI's capabilities and helping ensure dangerous individuals do not fall through the cracks. Require the FBI Director and the Joint Terrorism Task

Force (JTTF) be immediately notified of any request to transfer a firearm to an individual who was the subject of a federal terrorism investigation within the last 10 years. When an individual who was the subject of a federal terrorism investigation within the last 10 years tries to obtain a firearm, allow the U.S. Attorney General to delay the purchase or transfer for up to three business days and file an emergency petition in court to stop it. If the court finds probable cause that the individual is connected to terrorism, the Attorney General may arrest the individual. Protect the due process rights of law-abiding Americans by ensuring emergency petitions filed by the Attorney General are only granted if the transferee receives notice of the hearing and has the opportunity to participate with legal counsel. If the court denies the Attorney General's petition, the federal government is responsible for all reasonable costs and attorney fees. Require the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) to conduct an audit of the federal government's terrorism screening and watch list procedures, and identify any problems in the processes of adding or removing individuals from the system. Based on the audit, the IC IG must then submit a classified report to the Senate and House Intelligence Committees with recommendations for improving the system." (Marco Rubio, 9/15/16)

VIDEO: Rubio, In 2018: "When I Offered My Bill To Restrict People On The Terror Watch List, Or Have Been On The List For The Last Ten Years, From Purchasing A Weapon, They (The NRA) Didn't Take A Stand. They Certainly Didn't Support Mine." (Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:15)



(Facebook, 2/21/18; Minute 3:15)

In 2019, Rubio Reintroduced His Terror Watch List Bill. "Today, U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) reintroduced the Terror Intelligence Improvement Act to make it harder for suspected terrorists to purchase firearms. The bill would also provide more authority for law enforcement agencies to go after suspected terrorists, while safeguarding law-abiding citizens' Second Amendment and due process rights. "After the terrorist attack at Pulse nightclub, I made a promise to improve our laws to make it more difficult for evil people to get ahold of guns,"

Rubio said. "This bill is a common-sense measure that would help ensure criminals, terrorists, and others seeking to take innocent lives are not able to acquire firearms, while also protecting the due process and Second Amendment rights of innocent, law-abiding Americans.'" (Marco Rubio, 6/11/19)

Gun Control: Background Check Revamp – Support

In 2018, "Rubio Pledged To Work With Nelson On Shoring Up The FBI's Background-Check System For Gun Purchases…" "Scott, Nelson and Rubio were all invited to CNN's nationally televised town hall Wednesday night in Broward County, Florida's most-Democratic and home of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Citing work in Tallahassee, Scott skipped the town hall and didn't address the news media Wednesday. Nelson let him have it, scoring easy points against the still-undeclared Scott. "Our governor did not come here, Governor Scott," Nelson said. The crowd booed. And Rubio, the only Republican onstage, was jeered and interrupted for refusing to support an assault-weapons ban and for not refusing to accept money from the NRA, which has given him an A+ rating. Rubio pledged to work with Nelson on shoring up the FBI's background-check system for gun purchases and advocated for what's called a "gun-violence restraining order" that's likely to be part of the legislation state lawmakers vote on Friday." (*Politico*, 2/21/18)

Gun Control: High Capacity Magazine Limits – Support

In 2018, "On The Defensive, Rubio Unexpectedly Said He's Rethinking His Support For High-Volume Magazines…" "On the defensive, Rubio unexpectedly said he's rethinking his support for high-volume magazines and expressed opposition to the proposal to arm teachers and specially trained instructional personnel, a plan popular with the NRA and Republicans in Tallahassee and Washington. Rubio said teachers could get shot by mistake by law enforcement. The glare of the national spotlight has been inescapable, because of the scope and circumstances of the slaughter — 17 dead, and missed interventions and tips that could have stopped it. Still, despite the polls and public pressure, Republicans in Washington and Tallahassee say they won't try to ban the sale or possession of military-style weapons. But earlier in the day, during a White House meeting with mass shooting survivors and advocates, Trump expressed the most interest in the idea of arming teachers, which the father of a murdered child first brought up. "We're going to be looking at it very strongly," Trump said. "If you had a teacher who was adept at firearms, they could very well end the attack very quickly. … I really believe if these cowards knew that the school was well guarded. … I think they wouldn't go into the school to start off with, it could very well solve your problem.'" (*Politico*, 2/21/18)

- **"Rubio Insisted He Was Trying To Find Common Ground And Wasn't Going To Let The Perfect Be The Enemy Of The Good, Particularly When It Came To His Position On High-Volume Magazines."** "Jeered and booed by the crowd, buffeted by tough questions, Rubio stood alone as the only Republican onstage, in purple Florida's liberal bastion of Broward County. He broke with President Trump on whether to arm teachers. Rubio said it was a bad idea. He said he would favor raising the minimum age to purchase an assault rifle from 18 to 21. And he said he would consider restricting the size of magazines for firearms. It was a striking turnabout for Rubio, who never met a

gun-rights bill he didn't vote for in the Florida Legislature and, later, in Congress. But Rubio said he wanted to prevent another massacre and said it was time for everyone to start rethinking their positions. The crowd, though, didn't seem to agree. At one point, Rubio's colleague, Sen. Bill Nelson, tried to throw him a lifeline when the Democrat credited the Republican for showing up — unlike Gov. Rick Scott, Nelson's likely opponent in 2018. Rubio insisted he was trying to find common ground and wasn't going to let the perfect be the enemy of the good, particularly when it came to his position on high-volume magazines. "It may not prevent an attack, but it may save lives in an attack," he said, suggesting that three or four lives might have been saved in Parkland had there been some restriction on magazine size." (*Politico*, 2/22/18)

- **"Rubio Said He Would Leave It To Law Enforcement To Suggest What The Right Magazine Size Would Be."** "Rubio said he would leave it to law enforcement to suggest what the right magazine size would be. That wasn't enough for the audience, even as Rubio chided them that politicians should be allowed to change their minds. And it wasn't enough for the other people on stage." (*Politico*, 2/22/18)

Gun Control: Bump Stock Ban – Support

"Rubio Was Met With Applause And Went On To Say He Supports Banning "Bump Stocks," Which Can Make A Semiautomatic Fire Like A Machine Gun." "Rubio was met with applause and went on to say he supports banning "bump stocks," which can make a semiautomatic fire like a machine gun. He also voiced his support for better background checks and mental health funding. But when Rubio said an "assault weapons ban" would not have prevented last week's murders, the boos rained down. "It is too easy to get," Guttenburg said. "It is a weapon of war. The fact that you can't stand with everybody in this building and say that, I'm sorry.'" (*Politico*, 2/22/18)

Gun Control: Guns In Cars – Oppose

In 2007, Rubio, Then Serving As Speaker, Delegated Authority To His Lieutenant Stan Mayfield Regarding NRA-Backed Legislation "That Would Allow Employees To Keep Guns In Their Cars At Work"; Rubio Backed Mayfield's Decision To Oppose The Bill. "Though pitched as a move toward democratizing the House, it had a clear political benefit for Rubio: He could stay above the fray while his lieutenants tended to controversies. In 2007, for instance, the National Rifle Association pushed legislation that would allow employees to keep guns in their cars at work. Business groups opposed the measure. Rubio allowed Rep. Stan Mayfield, a top lieutenant and the chairman of the Environment and Natural Resources committee, to take the lead. Support for the bill had been shaky from the outset, but the measure became toxic after the Virginia Tech shooting, in which a student shot and killed 32 people on the college's campus. Despite intense pressure from the NRA, Mayfield opposed the bill. "Stan made sure the speaker understood where he stood," says Kevin Sweeny, a former Mayfield aide. "Speaker Rubio said, 'Stan, I trust you to do what is right.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

FOREIGN POLICY AND DEFENSE ISSUES

Ideological Issues – Neoconservatism And Interventionism

Overall – Support And Promotion

In 2011, "Rubio Says He Believes Its Important To Account To People Why It Is "Essential" For The United States To "Spend Money And Risk Lives On Foreign Policy.'" "Marco Rubio was the last in the current crop of freshman senators to deliver his maiden speech. When he finally took the floor, the Republican from South Florida sounded a very different note than the 12 GOP freshmen who spoke before him. Where others focused exclusively on the domestic economy -- the size of the U.S. debt, the need for a balanced-budget amendment, their opposition to raising taxes -- Rubio chose a global theme, offering his vision for America's role in the world in the 21st century. This week, Rubio will expand on that theme with a speech at the Jesse Helms Center in North Carolina that is intended to be a full-throated defense of American engagement overseas, even at a time of belt tightening at home. Rubio says he believes its important to account to people why it is "essential" for the United States to "spend money and risk lives on foreign policy." In particular, Rubio says he will reinforce the importance of promoting democracy. "We don't always agree with other democracies but very rarely do we find ourselves fighting them," he says This kind of rhetoric on U.S. policy abroad certainly doesn't fit the stereotype of a politician who rode to office in 2010 on the backs of tea party activists -- upsetting a popular governor along the way -- and who embodies in many ways the new generation of fiscal conservatives in Congress. But Rubio seems intent on carving out a path distinct from many others in the Class of 2010. Through his high-profile speeches, as well as his legislative collaborations with senior senators and daily work on the Foreign Relations and Select Intelligence panels, he is emerging as a fresh GOP voice on foreign policy. In doing so, he is contradicting the notion that the tea party is synonymous with international isolationism. And he is challenging the narrative that his party, as a whole, is headed in that same direction." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

- **"Rubio Has Not Been Shy In Pushing For That Sort Of Muscular Foreign Policy Approach."** "But while other new members passed over the Foreign Relations Committee for posts on Appropriations, Commerce or other panels with more home-state relevance, Rubio embraced the chance to develop his foreign policy chops and has quickly become one of the panel's most active GOP members. "I am a big believer that very little of what happens in our daily lives is not directly influenced by things that are happening around the world," Rubio explains. "We're not Liechtenstein; we're not Monaco; we're the United States. So our interests are found globally everywhere." "The world needs a strong, decisive America as much as ever," he adds. Rubio has not been shy in pushing for that sort of muscular foreign policy approach." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

In 2012, Rubio "Called On The U.S. To Continue Its Involvement Throughout The World, Especially In The Middle East Hot Spots Of Iran And Syria." "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio delivered a foreign policy speech at a D.C. think tank on Wednesday in which he called on the U.S. to continue its involvement throughout the world, especially in the Middle East hot spots of Iran and Syria. Attempting to show off his foreign policy chops, Rubio argued for an American

foreign policy that remains engaged in foreign lands, saying the U.S. should become involved in Syria, and arguing that military action may need to be taken to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. "I disagree with voices in my own party who argue we should not engage at all. Who warn we should heed the words of John Quincy Adams not to go 'abroad, in search of monsters to destroy,'" said Rubio at the Brookings Institution. "I disagree, because all around us we see the human face of America's influence in the world." Rubio, whose speech did little to dismiss the vice presidential speculation surrounding him, stressed the need for America to build coalitions when becoming involved in foreign affairs, saying there is no other country "to hand off the baton to, even if it were wise to do so." But such coalition building should not hamper the U.S. from leading on the international stage, he said. The Florida senator criticized President Obama for "an overreliance on institutions, global institutions whether its the security council or its the United Nations to take the lead on some of these issues." He cited Libya as a case in which the president waited too long to lead, and results were stifled because of inaction." (NBC News, 4/25/12)

In 2014, "Alarmed By The Rise Of Noninterventionist Voices In His Party, Senator Marco Rubio, Republican Of Florida, Is Aiming To Revive His Political Prospects In An Unlikely Way: Trying To Become The Leading Voice For A Muscular Brand Of Foreign Policy." "Alarmed by the rise of noninterventionist voices in his party, Senator Marco Rubio, Republican of Florida, is aiming to revive his political prospects in an unlikely way: trying to become the leading voice for a muscular brand of foreign policy. The road to presidential success in Iowa and New Hampshire may not run through the Crimean Peninsula or the streets of Caracas, but in recent weeks Mr. Rubio has used Russia's incursion into Ukraine and the violent clashes in Venezuela to remind Republicans of their orthodoxy -- projecting strength abroad -- and of why he was such a favorite in the party before seeing his popularity slip over his backing of an immigration overhaul. The party has been pulled by competing forces before -- such as when Pat Buchanan's more isolationist leanings contrasted with the internationalist views of the first President George Bush in 1992 -- but the ascent of the Tea Party and its skepticism about foreign entanglements is now framing an even larger internal debate." (*The New York Times*, 3/7/14)

- **Rubio "Sought To Link The Right's Resolute Belief In American Exceptionalism With A Call For The United States To Play A More Robust Role In Confronting Bad Actors On The World Stage."** "Addressing a gathering of conservatives here on Thursday, Mr. Rubio, a potential 2016 presidential candidate, sought to link the right's resolute belief in American exceptionalism with a call for the United States to play a more robust role in confronting bad actors on the world stage. That posture stands in contrast with other members of his party, notably Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky, who argues that the United States should be wary of foreign intervention and retreat from the policies of the George W. Bush era. The divergent national security views of the two ambitious, first-term senators offer an early preview of a debate sure to play out in the Republican presidential primary in 2016. "There is only one nation on earth capable of rallying and bringing together the free people on this planet to stand up to the spread of totalitarianism," Mr. Rubio told attendees of the Conservative Political Action Conference, offering a tour d'horizon of affairs in China, North Korea, Iran, Venezuela and Russia. After suffering a bruising from conservatives over immigration, Mr. Rubio, who devoted over half of his 16-minute address to national security issues, has been

delivering the same message of late in formal speeches to conservative think tanks, in Twitter messages, op-ed pieces, television appearances, on the Senate floor and in private conversations with leaders on trips to Britain, South Korea and Japan. He is not only trying to rehabilitate his image among those conservatives who believe that he was advocating for amnesty for illegal immigrants, he also is seizing an opening to put a potential presidential rival who has enjoyed far better reviews recently on the defensive. For a while, Mr. Paul's views on national security, such as his opposition to the use of drones and the National Security Agency surveillance program, dovetailed with the deep conservative unease toward empowering President Obama. But Ukraine offers a moment for hawks like Mr. Rubio to reassert themselves. In an interview, Mr. Rubio did not mention Mr. Paul by name, but the Floridian plainly wants to begin drawing differences between his more hawkish approach to foreign policy and Mr. Paul's preference for restraint abroad. "There are forces within our party, there have always been in American politics, that basically say, 'Who cares what happens everywhere else? Just mind our own business,' " Mr. Rubio said, warning that there are "consequences and repercussions" to such an outlook. Doug Stafford, a top adviser to Mr. Paul, said the senator from Kentucky "rejects the label of isolationism." "He believes in a strong national defense, and an America that leads the way in the world and engages with other nations," Mr. Stafford said. "For too long there has been a false debate between those who wish to be everywhere all the time, and nowhere.'" (*The New York Times*, 3/7/14)

In 2015, Rubio Delivered A Vaunted Foreign Policy Speech During Which He Laid Out "Undiluted Neoconservatism Molded By A Coterie Of Neocon Advisers Plucked From The Most Recent Bush Administration." "Marco Rubio gave his big foreign policy speech yesterday, and he carved out space in his remarks to praise many former presidents for their vision and moral clarity when it came to foreign affairs. He led off with a quote from John F. Kennedy, name-checked Harry Truman, said "Reagan" a (surprisingly scant) three times. The overall thrust of his remarks was that American foreign policy in the 20th century was just terrific, and as president he'll bring that same spirit of Cold War resolve back to the White House and make sure "the 21st century will be another American Century." One president's name didn't come up – the last Republican to hold the office, George W. Bush. That makes sense, given that the Bush legacy is still politically toxic and other 2016 wannabes are taking no small amount of grief for associating themselves with it. But really, Rubio should have given W. at least some credit, given that the foreign policy vision he laid out was undiluted neoconservatism molded by a coterie of neocon advisers plucked from the most recent Bush administration. And, in classic neocon fashion, Rubio's doctrine of foreign policy consisted mainly of black-and-white moralizing and dubious assurances that bloated military budgets, in conjunction with tough-guy posturing, will bend the globe to America's will. To make his case, Rubio attacked what he viewed as the "deterioration of our physical and ideological strength" under the Obama administration, which "has led to a world far more dangerous than when President Obama entered office.'" (*Salon*, 5/14/15)

2015: Rubio "Has Tried To Establish Himself As The Hawkish Foreign Policy Expert. He Has Called For Increased Military Funding And Building Up Weapons, And He Often Talks About Threats Faced From Iran And From ISIS." "As Rubio moved toward his presidential bid in April, he has tried to establish himself as the hawkish foreign policy expert.

He has called for increased military funding and building up weapons, and he often talks about threats faced from Iran and from ISIS." (Politifact, 5/18/15)

VIDEO: In September 2015, Rubio Criticizes Neo-Isolationist Sentiments And Argues That America Retreating Has Failed "Every Time It Has Been Tried." (YouTube, 9/16/15)



(YouTube, 9/16/15)

Sanctions

Sanctions On Russia

Rubio Voted Yea On S Amdt 232 To S 722, To Impose Sanctions With Respect To The Russian Federation And To Combat Terrorism And Illicit Financing. (S Amdt 232 To S 722, Amendment Passed – Senate (97-2), U.S. Senate, 6/14/17, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

June 14, 2017	Imposing sanctions on Russia (97-2)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

In 2019, Rubio Voted Yea On A Motion To Invoke Cloture On SJR 2, Which Disapproved Of The President's Proposal To Take An Action Relating To The Application Of Certain Sanctions With Respect To The Russian Federation. (SJR 2, Passed (57 - 42), United States Senate, 1/16/19, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Jan. 16, 2019	Disapproving of the Trump administration's plan to lift sanctions on three Russian companies (57-42)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Sanctions On Russia, Iran, And North Korea

Rubio Voted Yea On HR 3364, The Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act. (HR 3364, Bill Passed – Senate (98-2), U.S. Senate, 7/27/17, Rubio Voted Yea)

- NOTE: "This bill directs the President to impose sanctions against: (1) Iran's ballistic missile or weapons of mass destruction programs, (2) the sale or transfer to Iran of military equipment or the provision of related technical or financial assistance, and (3) Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and affiliated foreign persons." (HR 3364)
- NOTE: "The President must submit for congressional review certain proposed actions to terminate or waive sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation." (HR 3364)
- NOTE: "The bill modifies and increases the President's authority to impose sanctions on persons in violation of certain United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding North Korea." (HR 3364)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

July 27, 2017	Imposing sanctions on Russia, Iran and North Korea (98-2)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Iraq

Overall – Support For The Iraq War

In October 2010, Rubio Defended The Iraq War And Argued That The United States Was Better Off For Having Done So. " SMITH: Mr. Rubio, is -- is America safer and better off for having gone to war in Iraq? RUBIO: I think the answer ultimately is yes. First of all, the world is better off because Saddam Hussein is no longer in charge in Iraq. And I think we have to remind ourselves of that, is that the world is a better and safer place because Saddam Hussein no longer is in charge of that country. Let's understand one thing. Right now, we are worried about Iran possessing a nuclear weapon. Well, if Saddam Hussein was still there, and you know the relationship and the long history between Iraq and Iran, you'd have two nations in a full-blown arms war, the way you've seen, for example, between Pakistan and India. So the world is a better and safer place, and not to mention the Iraqi people are better off than they were under Saddam

Hussein. There's no doubt that Iraq has a long way to go. You know, there are a lot of issues that that society and that that nation-state faces. But it is better off today than it was when Saddam Hussein...” (CNN, 10/24/10)

In 2015, Rubio Reiterated That He Did Not Think It Was A Mistake To Go To War In Iraq. “As Rubio moved toward his presidential bid in April, he has tried to establish himself as the hawkish foreign policy expert. He has called for increased military funding and building up weapons, and he often talks about threats faced from Iran and from ISIS. In March as a deadline approached on the nuclear deal with Iran, Rubio talked about both Iran and Iraq on Fox News’ The Five when asked, "Was it a mistake to go to war to Iraq?" "No, I don't believe it was. The world is a better place because Saddam Hussein doesn’t run Iraq," he said, arguing that Iraq could have pursued a weapon. "So I think, hindsight is always 20/20, but we don't know what the world would look like if Saddam Hussein was still there.’” (Politifact, 5/18/15)

Establishing Permanent U.S. Presence In Iraq And Middle East And Use Of Ground Troops – Support

In 2014, Rubio Noted He Would “Absolutely” Advocate For A Permanent U.S. Presence In Iraq and The Middle East And Called For U.S. Troops On The Ground To Defeat ISIS. “If Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) ever became president, would he advocate for a permanent U.S. troop presence in the Middle East? “Absolutely,” he told Neil Cavuto this afternoon on “Your World.” Rubio explained that the bin Laden mission would have been impossible without a U.S. troop mission in Afghanistan. He also said that having U.S. troops on the ground in Iraq could have prevented the advance of ISIS. Rubio also called for boots on the ground, saying that ISIS can be degraded through airstrikes, but cannot be defeated through strikes alone.” (Fox News, 9/23/14)

Continuing Political Interventions – Support

In 2015, Rubio Called For Continued Political Interventions In Iraq, Noting “It Is Imperative That We Use All Of The Leverage At America’s Disposal To Negotiate A Power-Sharing Deal That Will Give Predominantly Sunni Provinces, Such As Anbar And Nineveh, Assurances That Their Rights Will Be Respected By Baghdad Even After The Defeat Of The Islamic State.” “The biggest impediment to such a strategy is the administration’s ill-considered and unreciprocated outreach to Iran. Our allies are alarmed that the president plans to grant Iran generous sanctions relief, potentially worth hundreds of billions of dollars, without demanding the dismantlement of its nuclear program. Their concerns are only magnified because our failure to do more to stop the jihadis rampaging across Iraq and Syria has allowed Iran to claim the lead role in the anti-Islamic State coalition. Iranian-backed militias are at the forefront of the fight in both Syria and Iraq — a development that leads many Sunnis to conclude that the Islamic State and al-Nusra Front, al Qaeda’s official affiliate in Syria, are the lesser evil. We must make clear that the United States does not have a secret plan (as many conspiracy theorists in the Middle East imagine) to trade Islamic State domination of Iraq and Syria for Iranian domination. In Iraq, it is imperative that we use all of the leverage at America’s disposal to negotiate a power-sharing deal that will give predominantly Sunni provinces, such as Anbar and Nineveh, assurances that their rights will be respected by Baghdad even after the defeat of the Islamic State. Sunnis do not want to risk a repeat of the fiasco that occurred when

the Obama administration pulled out all U.S. combat troops in 2011. Reaching such a deal will require sending high-level American representatives to Baghdad, on par with the dynamic team of Gen. David Petraeus, now retired, and then-U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker, both of whom oversaw the "surge" in 2007. Even now, Washington still has leverage in Iraq, as the administration showed by helping to oust the sectarian Nouri al-Maliki as prime minister last year. But ever since then, a distracted White House has not been exercising our influence to the maximum extent possible." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

Syria

Overall – Support For Military Strikes And Expanded Intervention

2015: "To Defeat ISIS, Rubio Would Expand Air Strikes Against The Group And Work To Build A Stronger Multinational Coalition." "To defeat ISIS, Rubio would expand air strikes against the group and work to build a stronger multinational coalition. He believes that both ISIS and the Al-Assad government pose threats to stability in the region. The Florida senator would provide arms directly to tribal and Kurdish forces in Iraq." (PBS, 4/13/15)

In 2017, "Sen. Marco Rubio, A Longtime Hawk On Syria, Praised The US Airstrike On A Syrian Airfield Days After A Chemical Attack On Innocents Attributed To Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad." "Sen. Marco Rubio, a longtime hawk on Syria, praised the US airstrike on a Syrian airfield days after a chemical attack on innocents attributed to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. Following news that President Donald Trump had green-lit the US action, Rubio said Thursday on CNN's "Anderson Cooper 360" that Russia could not fairly criticize the military strike because Russia backed Assad – who is accused of perpetrating the attack on his own people. "They have no standing to say anything about this," Rubio said of the Russians. He said that the move doesn't just send a message, but amounts to a "significant degrading" of Assad's ability to carry out chemical attacks. "This is the area from which those chemical attacks were launched," Rubio said. "It's the place you were going to see future attacks come from, particularly targeting innocent civilians." Earlier in the night, Rubio tweeted a photo of a man holding two babies and wrote, "Something should happen." Rubio also quoted a passage from the Bible ahead of the strikes, writing, "'Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished' Proverbs 11:21 #SyriaChemicalAttack" Speaking Friday on CNN's "New Day," Rubio said the strike was in "our national interest" because of American troops in the area whom Assad could potentially target in a similar chemical weapons attack. "If Assad is willing to use that gas against civilians, why would he not be willing to use it against Americans?" Rubio said. Earlier, a deputy Russian UN ambassador had warned of "negative consequences" Thursday if the US decided to use military force in Syria." (CNN, 4/7/17)

Imposing No Fly Zone – Support

Rubio, In 2015: "The United States Should Work With Our Allies, Both Arab And European, To Impose A No-Fly Zone Over Parts Of Syria That Will Prevent Assad's Air Force From Dropping Barrel Bombs And Chlorine Gas Bombs On Civilian Neighborhoods." "The United States should work with our allies, both Arab and European, to impose a no-fly zone over parts of Syria that will prevent Assad's air force from dropping barrel

bombs and chlorine gas bombs on civilian neighborhoods. We should also work with our allies, particularly with neighboring states such as Jordan and Turkey, to set up safe zones in border regions of Syria, where the moderate opposition can begin to govern free of the threat of regime (or Islamic State) attacks." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

Training Syrian Rebels – Support

Rubio, In 2015: "As I Have Argued For Years, The United States Should Do More To Train And Support Anti-Islamic State Fighters In Both Iraq And Syria." "As I have argued for years, the United States should do more to train and support anti-Islamic State fighters in both Iraq and Syria. I warned well before jihadis ever filled the void caused by the conflict in Syria that we needed to try to identify moderate members of the opposition that we could train and equip to take on Assad." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

Allowing Embedding Of U.S. Troops – Support

Rubio, In 2015: "We Need, For Example, To Lift The Self-Defeating Restrictions That Prevent U.S. Personnel From Calling In Airstrikes To Support Iraqi Military Operations And Embedding With The Units They Have Trained." "Years later, the Obama administration has failed to do this effectively in Syria and is struggling to carry out training of anti-Islamic State forces in Iraq. We need, for example, to lift the self-defeating restrictions that prevent U.S. personnel from calling in airstrikes to support Iraqi military operations and embedding with the units they have trained. To enable military success against the Islamic State, we must first have in place a political strategy to mobilize significant Sunni Arab opposition to this terrorist group, both within Syria and Iraq and in the broader region." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

Overseeing Post-Bashar Settlement In Syria – Support

Rubio, In 2015: "We Should Begin Intensive Planning Now, In Cooperation With Allies And Multilateral Organizations, To Prepare For A Post-War Settlement In Syria Once Assad Is Overthrown — As Eventually He Will Be." "Finally, we should begin intensive planning now, in cooperation with allies and multilateral organizations, to prepare for a post-war settlement in Syria once Assad is overthrown — as eventually he will be. This is the kind of planning that the Obama administration failed to do in Libya and that the Bush administration failed to do in Iraq — both failures for which we continue to pay a heavy price. Even with these actions, the ongoing failure to fully address the threat posed by the Islamic State and by the Assad regime's brutal hold on power will present challenges to U.S. security for decades to come. From the tens of thousands of traumatized children in refugee camps throughout the region to the sexual violence and cleansing of religious minorities, the conflict in Syria has metastasized into a regional nightmare with profound implications for future generations in the Middle East and overseas. As yet another August comes and goes in this conflict that now has generational implications for global security, U.S. strategy remains an incoherent mess. Reversing the gains that both Iran and the Islamic State have made as they have sought to fill the void left by American disengagement will be difficult. Ending Assad's reign of terror once and for all will be, too. And both will be much more difficult than if we had acted at the outset of the

civil war in Syria, as some of us urged President Obama and then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. But it is still not impossible." (Marco Rubio, Foreign Policy, 8/25/15)

Afghanistan

Afghanistan And Syria

In 2019, Rubio Voted Yea On Amendment 65 To S 1, Which Expressed The Sense Of The Senate That The United States Faces Continuing Threats From Terrorist Groups Operating In Syria And Afghanistan. (Amdt 65 To S 1, Passed (70 - 26), United States Senate, 2/4/19, Rubio Voted Yea)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Feb. 4, 2019	Disapproving of withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan and Syria (70-26)	Oppose	Yes	✖

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Iran

Potential Military Intervention To Prevent Nuclear Weapon – Support

In 2012, "Rubio Made Clear That Military Action Should Be On The Table In Iran." "Rubio said he believes foreign policy should be "non-partisan as much as possible." But for a war-weary country, further American involvement anywhere in the country can be a contentious issue. The senator said part of the problem in Afghanistan is that the U.S. has not made a long-term commitment to the country, and some Afghans fear the prospects of cooperating with allie forces if Taliban were to rule again after the coalition leaves the country. And Rubio made clear that military action should be on the table in Iran. "We should also be preparing our allies, and the world, for the reality that unfortunately, if all else fails, preventing a nuclear Iran may, tragically, require a military solution," he said. But, the Tea Party favorite did express his desires to building coalitions before beginning any foreign entanglement. "America has acted unilaterally in the past -– and I believe it should continue to do so in the future -- when necessity requires," he said. "But our preferred option since the U.S. became a global leader has been to work with others to achieve our goals."" (NBC News, 4/25/12)

"Rubio Emphasized That While There Is Still A Window Of Opportunity To Try To Negotiate With An Uncooperative Teheran, That The U.S. Should Prepare For The Worst By Keeping All Options On The Table — Including The Use Of Military Force." "The senator also devoted a significant portion of his speech addressing Iran's nuclear ambitions, asserting that the goal of preventing a dominant Iran was so critical that every regional policy that the U.S. adopts should be crafted with this goal in mind. Rubio emphasized that while there is still a window of opportunity to try to negotiate with an uncooperative Teheran, that the U.S. should prepare for the worst by keeping all options on the table — including the use of military force. "Preferably, we can succeed through coercive means short of military force. We should be

open to negotiations with Iran," he said. "But always remember that they should not be deemed a success when they only lead to further negotiations. Stronger pressure shouldn't be postponed in the expectation that our forbearance will encourage Iran to act in good faith. Nothing in our experience with Iran suggests that it considers such gestures as anything other than a lack of resolve on our part.'" (*Politico*, 4/25/12)

Libya

Overall – Support For Intervention And Use Of Military Force

In 2011, Rubio "Has Been An Outspoken Voice For Intervention In Libya Ever Since The Anti-Government Protesters First Began Clashing With Dictator Muammar El-Qaddafi's Forces Over The Winter." "In hearings, he has been an outspoken voice for intervention in Libya ever since the anti-government protesters first began clashing with dictator Muammar el-Qaddafi's forces over the winter. Rubio aggressively questioned Undersecretary of State William Burns in a March hearing on what he called the Obama administration's "troubling" response to the rising violence within the country. "Is the message that we're sending that when future conflicts arise, the United States' actions are difficult to predict? There may be none? That, basically, the way to repress and bring down resistance like this is to be brutal? What are we going to do if there's a bloodbath after this?" Rubio asked, his voice rising. The freshman senator has toned down his rhetoric since that hearing, opting for a more constructive, statesman-like demeanor in the Foreign Relations Committee. But his policy views have remained aggressive, and he has continued to advance them with allies -- of any stripe -- that he can find in the chamber." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

"On Libya, That Led Him To Support A Push By Established Hawks Such As Independent Joseph I. Lieberman Of Connecticut And Republican John Mccain Of Arizona, As Well As With Foreign Relations Chairman John Kerry Of Massachusetts, For A Resolution To Authorize The Use Of American Military Force." "On Libya, that led him to support a push by established hawks such as independent Joseph I. Lieberman of Connecticut and Republican John McCain of Arizona, as well as with Foreign Relations Chairman John Kerry of Massachusetts, for a resolution to authorize the use of American military force. On the unrest in Syria, where the Obama administration has moved cautiously in pressuring strongman Bashar al-Assad, Rubio teamed with Lieberman to introduce a resolution calling for tougher sanctions on the Assad regime. And he and the self-described "three amigos" -- Lieberman, McCain and South Carolina Republican Lindsey Graham -- have joined together over the last few months to applaud steps the president has taken, while urging further action. "He's good to work with, he's smart, he's very articulate" and "he has strong ideals," Lieberman says of Rubio, whom he first got to know during visits to Florida when Rubio was in the state legislature." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

- **Rubio, In June 2011: "We Have An Unequivocal National Interest In Ensuring Moammar Gadhafi's Regime Is Defeated As Quickly As Possible. To Guarantee The Mission's Success, It Is Vital That The U.S. Officially Recognize The Transitional National Council, Provide Additional Resources To Support The Council, And Intensify Strike Operations To Target The Gadhafi Regime."** "The deepening

confrontation between the White House and Congress over Libya is both counterproductive and unnecessary. Whatever one thinks about the constitutional questions surrounding the War Powers Resolution, or the wisdom of the original decision to intervene in Libya three months ago, the strategic reality is that our nation is now engaged in a fight. It will either end in the demise of a brutal anti-American dictator, or in his victory over us and our allies. The latter would be an extremely harmful outcome for the U.S. For this reason, we have an unequivocal national interest in ensuring Moammar Gadhafi's regime is defeated as quickly as possible. To guarantee the mission's success, it is vital that the U.S. officially recognize the Transitional National Council, provide additional resources to support the council, and intensify strike operations to target the Gadhafi regime. Yet rather than push the Obama administration to do what is necessary to bring this conflict to a successful conclusion, members of Congress are pushing to restrict our military campaign. If we withdraw from our air war over Libya, it will lengthen the conflict, increase its cost to American taxpayers, and raise doubts about U.S. leadership among friends and foes alike. If the U.S. were to withdraw from operations against the regime in Tripoli, the coalition would quickly unravel. Gadhafi would emerge triumphant, even more dangerous and determined to seek his revenge through terrorism against the countries in NATO and the Arab League that tried and failed to overthrow him. U.S. withdrawal would also mean a bloodbath inside Libya, as Gadhafi unleashes unspeakable horrors against the Libyan people who sought their freedom. And it would have ripple effects across the Middle East: Pro-democracy movements from Iran to Syria would conclude that the U.S. had abandoned them, and dictators would be emboldened. American disengagement would also inflict irreparable damage on the NATO alliance, a pillar of U.S. security in which we have a vital national interest. Having walked out on our European allies in the middle of a battle, we can expect them to do the same to us in Afghanistan. Some may claim the current congressional proposals to curtail operations in Libya are largely symbolic. Since the proposals are unlikely to become law, their backers insist they are simply intended to "send a message" to the White House. The problem is that these measures also send a message to Gadhafi and those around him. That message? The coalition is breaking and his regime might yet persevere. Although we know this is not the intent of our colleagues' actions, it risks being their effect. There is a better way forward. For those on Capitol Hill who think the president requires congressional authorization to continue operations in Libya, there is a simple solution: Congress can and should pass a resolution explicitly backing these activities. It is precisely for this reason that we support a Senate resolution, put forward by Sen. John McCain (R., Ariz.), to do this." (Joe Lieberman And Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, 6/23/11)

- **Previously, In April 2011, "Freshman Senator Marco Rubio Of Florida Sent A Letter To The Democratic And Republican Leaders Of The Senate, Harry Reid And Mitch Mcconnell, Asking "Support For Bringing A Bi-Partisan Resolution To The Senate Floor Authorizing The President's Decision To Participate In Allied Military Action In Libya."** "The resolution is non-binding and, even if passed, would not become law. Instead, a Senate resolution is a sign of support—or, rather, an expression of where the Senate stands on a particular issue. "Our hope would be that there would be strong support on both sides of the aisle," a spokesman from Cornyn's office told me. The Texas senator passed the resolution around to members of Congress yesterday, though it is still too early to tell what sort of support the resolution might have from his

> colleagues. Last week, freshman senator Marco Rubio of Florida sent a letter to the Democratic and Republican leaders of the Senate, Harry Reid and Mitch McConnell, asking "support for bringing a bi-partisan resolution to the Senate floor authorizing the President's decision to participate in allied military action in Libya." "Furthermore," Rubio wrote, "this resolution should also state that removing Muammar Qaddafi from power is in our national interest and therefore should authorize the President to accomplish this goal. To that end, the resolution should urge the President to immediately recognize the Interim Transitional National Council as the legitimate government in Libya.'" (*The Weekly Standard*, 4/5/11)

In 2011, Rubio Co-Authored An Op-Ed With John McCain And Others Calling For The United States To Increase Its Involvement In Libya And Help Transition The Country To A Democracy. "The most meaningful support the U.S. could provide at this time is to help Libya care for its many wounded citizens. From our visit to the hospital, it is clear that Libya does not have the capacity to care for such a large number of wounded, many requiring advanced treatment and prosthetics. Indeed, this is such a priority that the TNC told us they would be willing to draw on the more than $150 billion in Libya's frozen assets to reimburse the U.S. for the costs of this humanitarian assistance. To this end, we should consider deploying a hospital ship, such as the USNS Comfort, to Libya or Malta. Another option could be to transport Libyans in need of advanced care to U.S. medical facilities in Europe. We can also help Libya lay the foundation for sustainable security. This requires safeguarding the immense stockpiles of weapons and dangerous materials that exist across the country. It also requires bringing Libya's many militias under the TNC's civilian authority, and working toward their demobilization, disarmament and reintegration into Libyan society. We and our allies should encourage this peaceful process as much as we can, and oppose external efforts to pick winners who would advance factional or ideological interests through force. Many Libyans recognize that they need a new civilian-led national army and police force. The TNC has asked the U.S., perhaps together with our Arab partners, to help train this new security force. American involvement in a small training mission could help Libya build a professional security force that contributes to national unity and forms the basis of our future security cooperation. Here, too, the TNC offered to reimburse the costs of our efforts. American support is also important for Libya's democratic transition. The TNC wants to cooperate with the U.S., especially with our nongovernmental organizations, in the monitoring of national elections (which could be held soon), the drafting of a constitution, and the development of civil society. Another area where we can play a vital role is in helping Libya reform its justice system. That the TNC invited us into al-Jdeida prison is evidence of its commitment to treating detainees humanely, with maximum transparency. Yet we continue to hear credible reports that Libyan militias are mistreating and taking revenge against detainees, especially African migrants. American assistance could help Libyans achieve their goal of creating a transparent and accountable system to deliver equal justice. Finally, now is the time to expand our economic ties with Libya and help the Libyan people take part in a more open regional economic order. This could include reactivating and building upon our existing Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, working toward the goal of a bilateral free trade agreement, helping Libya meet the requirements for accession to the World Trade Organization, and gradually turning the "no-fly zone" over Libya into a "pro-fly zone" that fosters civilian air travel. Americans have had their disagreements over the U.S. intervention in Libya, but the

sources of those disagreements are now fading into history. What remains is an enormous opportunity for the U.S. to build a partnership with a democratic and pro-American Libya that contributes to the expansion of security, prosperity and freedom across a pivotal region at a time of revolutionary change. This is a worthy goal that should unite Democrats and Republicans, Congress and the president, America and our allies. Libyans will build their own nation. But they desire and deserve our support. And it is in our interest to help them succeed." (Marco Rubio, John McCain, et al., Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 10/7/11)

China

Continued Openness To Trade/ Previous Opposition To Impose Tariffs

As Late As 2015, Rubio Continued To Laud Trading Opportunities With China Noting "Despite The Challenges China Poses To The U.S., We Must Never Forget That The Opportunities Are Even Greater. The Ability To Trade, Travel And Innovate Through Cooperation And Competition Is Greater Than It Has Ever Been." "Despite the challenges China poses to the U.S., we must never forget that the opportunities are even greater. The ability to trade, travel and innovate through cooperation and competition is greater than it has ever been. But to achieve a new era of productive relations between our nations, America must stand on the side of the Chinese people rather than their autocratic rulers. Americans must elect a president willing to lead with strength and by example. A strong America—militarily, economically and morally—is the only path to lasting peace and partnership between the U.S. and China." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/27/15)

- **Rubio: "China Presents Both Opportunities And Challenges. Trade With Its Growing Middle Class Has Opened American Businesses To Hundreds Of Millions Of New Customers."** "Over the past week, we have been dealt a painful reminder of just how important U.S. policy toward China is in the 21st century. On Monday, due largely to a crash in China's stock market, U.S. markets suffered their worst day in four years. Insecurity and anxiety about the future—already high for American families—climbed even higher. It was a jarring illustration of how globalization is changing the U.S. economy. China presents both opportunities and challenges. Trade with its growing middle class has opened American businesses to hundreds of millions of new customers. But Beijing's protectionist economic and trade policies increasingly endanger America's financial well-being. China is also a rising threat to U.S. national security. Earlier this year, it was behind the largest cyberattack ever carried out against the United States." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/27/15)

In A January 2016 GOP Primary Debate, Rubio Criticized Trump's Proposal To Impose Tariffs On China Arguing The True Cost Of The Tariff Would Be Shouldered By American Consumers. "RUBIO: But on this point, if I may add something on this point. We are all frustrated with what China is doing. I think we need to be very careful with tariffs, and here's why. China doesn't pay the tariff, the buyer pays the tariff. If you send a tie or a shirt made in China into the United States and an American goes to buy it at the store and there's a tariff on it, it gets passed on in the price to price to the consumer. So I think the better approach, the best thing we can do to protect ourselves against China economically is to make our economy stronger, which means reversing course from all the damage Barack Obama is doing to this

economy. It begins with tax reform. Let's not have the most expensive business tax rate in the world. Let's allow companies to immediately expense." (*The New York Times*, 1/15/16)

Cuba

Hypocrisy – Huckabee Endorsement (2007)

In 2007, Rubio "Backed Mike Huckabee — The Evangelical Republican Candidate — For President (Even Though Huckabee Had Called Him "Mario Rubio" At A Fundraiser And Spent Years Agitating To End The Cuban Embargo)." "Later in his first session as speaker, Rubio slammed Crist for trying to pass anti-global-warming regulations. He also backed Mike Huckabee — the evangelical Republican candidate — for president (even though Huckabee had called him "Mario Rubio" at a fundraiser and spent years agitating to end the Cuban embargo)." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Foreign Aid

Overall – Defense Of Foreign Aid Spending

Rubio "Is The Rare Republican Who Publicly Defends U.S. Foreign Aid Spending." "One area where Rubio has diverged drastically from his fellow tea party freshmen is on spending on international affairs. Funding for aid to the developing world is a particularly easy target for budget cutters on Capitol Hill these days. The argument offered by many fiscal conservatives is that, given the U.S. debt crisis, America simply can't afford to spend billions of dollars on programs to combat world hunger, food shortages or direct aid to foreign countries. Rubio, however, is the rare Republican who publicly defends U.S. foreign aid spending. In an online video response to a constituent question, Rubio laid out his case. The United States has to "be more careful about how we spend foreign aid," Rubio acknowledged, but "if it's done right, it spreads America's influence around the world in a positive way." "I think sometimes, in the press and in the minds of many, our foreign aid is exaggerated. It really is a miniscule part of our overall budget. And it's not the reason why we have this growing debt in America," he said, instead pointing to entitlement programs." (*Congressional Quarterly*, 9/10/11)

NATO

Overall – Support And Willingness To Go To War

In 2015, Rubio Has Underscored His Support For NATO And Indicated He Would Be Willing To Commit The United States To War With Russia In Order To Defend NATO Members Such AS Turkey. "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Florida) argued that the US must take a hawkish response to any Russian aggression against Turkey after the country downed a Russian warplane Tuesday. The Republican presidential candidate discussed what he would do to confront Russian President Vladimir Putin during a Fox news interview. "Although Vladimir Putin is a gangster and a criminal, he is also geopolitical actor who makes decisions on a cost-benefit analysis," Rubio said. Earlier in the day, Turkish fighter jets shot down a Russian warplane near the Syrian border for allegedly violating Turkish airspace and ignoring repeated warnings. Putin responded by saying his country's plane was actually in Syrian airspace, where Russia is supposedly conducting airstrikes against the Islamic State group. Putin warned of

"serious consequences" for Turkey. But Rubio argued that the US should make clear that it would go to war to defend Turkey, which is a member of the NATO alliance. If the US did that, Rubio said he would "hope" and expect that Russia would not confront NATO." (Business Insider, 11/24/15)

Defense Spending

Increasing Defense Spending – Support

Rubio Has Backed Proposals To Increase Defense Spending Over 10 Years By $1 Trillion. "Rubio has backed more defense spending since at least March 2015, when he and U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., introduced a budget amendment to increase the Pentagon's budget. At the time, Rubio argued that adjusted for inflation, defense spending had declined by 21 percent since 2010 -- a claim PolitiFact National rated Mostly True. Rubio's amendment proposed restoring defense spending levels to what had been proposed in the spring of 2011, for fiscal 2012 going forward, by then-Defense Secretary Robert Gates. Gates' proposal was prior to spending limits that were imposed by the Budget Control Act of 2011, which became law in the summer of 2011. Returning to the so-called 2012 proposed spending levels would add $1 trillion in defense spending over 10 years, Benjamin Friedman, a defense research fellow at the liberatrian Cato Institute, told us. That is also the estimate made in a July 2015 report from the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service. The morning after the Milwaukee debate, Rubio was asked in a Fox News interview: "So, where are you going to get the trillion dollars from that Rand Paul says we shouldn't be spending?" Rubio didn't address the figure, saying: "First of all, before we fund anything, the federal government should be fully funding national security." But he has made references to the $1 trillion cost in the past. In a September 2014 speech, Rubio said he agreed with a recommendation by the bipartisan National Defense Panel to return to the 2012-level spending, "which we are on track to be around $1 trillion short of through fiscal year 2022." And on his campaign website, Rubio says he would restore defense spending to the 2012 level, "and begin to undo the damage caused by $1 trillion in indiscriminate defense cuts.'" (Politifact, 11/12/15)

Intelligence And National Security

Patriot Act – Criticism

In The Wake Of 9/11, Rubio Initially Expressed Suspicion "Of Measures That Sought To Expand Police Detention Powers And Suspend Public-Records Laws" And Compared Them To Police State Policies In Cuba. "Today, Rubio has positioned himself as a foreign-policy hawk, but in the wake of 9/11, he struck a libertarian chord on national security matters. As state lawmakers considered dozens of bills to strengthen law enforcement, he expressed suspicion of measures that sought to expand police detention powers and suspend public-records laws. "I can't ignore the fact that a lot of people I represent came to this country because of the freedoms that make it what it is," Rubio said. "So many of these measures that we are talking about implementing were the very same ones that were forced on the people of Cuba right after Castro took over.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Bulk Metadata Collection – Support

"Mr. Rubio Is A Strong Supporter Of The Bulk Metadata Collection Program, Saying It Is Critical To National Security." "Mr. Rubio is a strong supporter of the bulk metadata collection program, saying it is critical to national security. He argues that it has received "vigorous congressional and judicial oversight" and that there has not been a "a single documented case of abuse.'" (*The New York Times*, 2016)

POLITICAL – TRUMP

Overall

Rubio's Evolution On Trump – Outspoken Critic To Hopeful Vice President

Rubio Was An Outspoken Opponent Of Trump "Before He Ended Up Grudgingly Backing Trump In 2016, More Enthusiastically Backing Him In 2020, And Even More Enthusiastically Backing Him In 2024—Endorsing Him In January Over Their Home State Governor, Ron DeSantis, The Day Before The Iowa Caucus." "Back then, Rubio initially discouraged Republican voters from backing Trump, quipping, "Friends do not let friends vote for a con artist," before he ended up grudgingly backing Trump in 2016, more enthusiastically backing him in 2020, and even more enthusiastically backing him in 2024—endorsing him in January over their home state governor, Ron DeSantis, the day before the Iowa caucus. "I support Trump because that kind of leadership is the ONLY way we will get the extraordinary actions needed to fix the disaster [Joe Biden] has created," Rubio gushed. Will that kind of flattery be enough to land him the most humiliating job in politics? "I can't tell you that really," Trump, ever the reality TV showman, said of his veepstakes back in January. But, he added, "I know who it's going to be.'" (*Vanity Fair*, 3/22/24)

Recently, In March 2024, Rubio Claimed He Would Be Honored To Serve As Vice President. "Marco Rubio used to call him a "con artist." But now, the Florida senator says he'd be happy to be Donald Trump's running mate. "I think anybody who would be offered that should be honored," Rubio said Thursday, amid reports that he's among the leading contenders in Trump's veepstakes. He hasn't "spoken to anybody in the Trump world about it," he told NBC News, but reiterated, "Anybody who would be offered the chance to serve their country as vice president should consider that an honor." Of course, the gig in question is less about serving the public as it is about serving Trump himself, as Mike Pence learned the hard way. Though obsequious through Trump's first campaign and term, Pence's refusal to help his boss overturn the 2020 election results was a "career killer," as the former president reportedly warned him on January 6, 2021. So it seems the chief qualification for a 2024 running mate would be a willingness to do what Pence didn't that day. Who'd want such a job? Plenty of Republicans, it turns out. "The list is long," a Trump adviser told NBC News and is said to include Tim Scott, Elise Stefanik, J.D. Vance, Kristi Noem, and Tulsi Gabbard—the Democrat turned right-wing darling who is also believed to be under consideration as a possible running mate by third-party candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (Yes, RFK Jr.'s name has even been floated as a potential contender for Trump: "He's very Trumpian," former Bob Dole campaign manager Scott Reed told the New York Times this week.)" (Vanity Fair, 3/22/24)

Criticisms Of Trump's Legal Issues And Related Matters

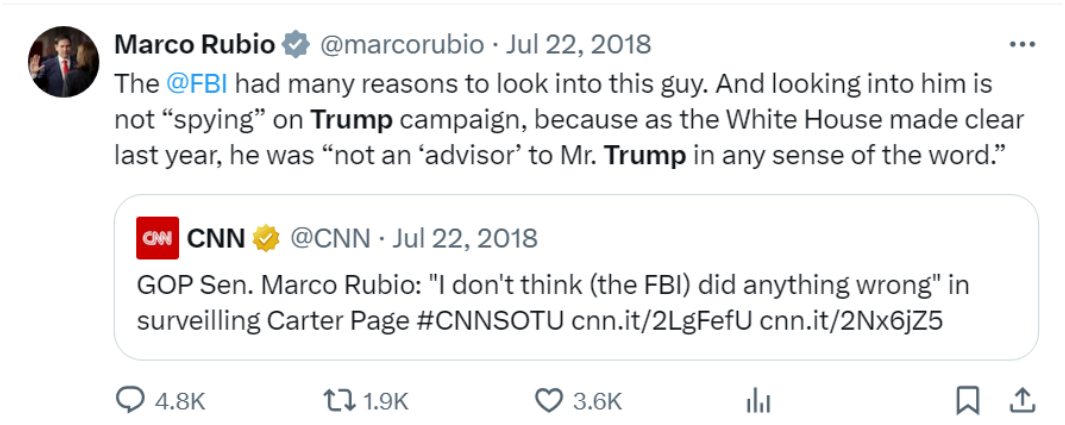
Support And Oversight Of The Trump-Russia Collusion Inquiries

"After The 2016 Election, Rubio Ultimately Became Chairman Of The Senate Intelligence Committee, And Oversaw The Panel When It Investigated The Connections Between The Trump Campaign And Its Russian Benefactors. The Rubio-Led Investigation Ultimately Uncovered, Among Other Things, A "Direct Tie Between Senior Trump Campaign Officials And The Russian Intelligence Services.'" "After the 2016 election, Rubio ultimately became chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and oversaw the panel when it investigated the connections between the Trump campaign and its Russian benefactors. The Rubio-led investigation ultimately uncovered, among other things, a "direct tie between senior Trump Campaign officials and the Russian intelligence services." After the 2020 election, when Trump was pressing GOP lawmakers to reject certification of Joe Biden's presidential election victory, Rubio was among the Republicans who ignored Trump's pleas. The moment Trump were to add Rubio to his ticket, all of this becomes front-page news again. Would the former president take the risk anyway? I'm skeptical, but he's certainly made plenty of irrational decisions before." (MSNBC, 3/21/24)

In 2017, Rubio Backed Robert Mueller's Investigation And Contended "That He Believes The Prosecutor Will Carry Out His Investigation Into Whether The Trump Campaign Colluded With Russia During The 2016 Presidential Campaign "In A Fair And Balanced Way.'" "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) backed special counsel Robert Mueller in an interview published Friday, saying that he believes the prosecutor will carry out his investigation into whether the Trump campaign colluded with Russia during the 2016 presidential campaign "in a fair and balanced way." "From his reputation and everything I know about him, I remain convinced that when this is all said and done, Mueller is going to only pursue things that are true and he will do it in a fair and balanced way," Rubio said of Mueller in a News-Press interview. The senator's comments come one day after President Trump expressed confidence that Mueller would carry out the federal probe without bias despite recent attacks on Mueller's integrity from Republican lawmakers. "I think the best thing that can happen for the president, for the country and for everyone is that he be allowed to complete his investigation as thoroughly and as completely as possible and that we allow the facts from the investigation to lead where they may," Rubio continued. Rubio, who sits on the Senate Intelligence Committee that is leading its own probe into possible ties to Russia within Trump's campaign team, has previously said that Trump firing Mueller would be a "mistake" and that the president should allow the special counsel to conclude his investigation despite the president's belief that the search for collusion is a "witch hunt." Trump allies ramped up demands for the probes to be shut down after Congress received a report that a top FBI counterintelligence agent who was fired from Mueller's team had sent anti-Trump texts between August 2015 and December 2016. The House Intelligence Committee is now seeking answers into possible bias on Mueller's team, while Republicans on the conservative House Freedom Caucus have publicly demanded that Mueller recuse himself from the investigation over his friendship with former FBI Director James Comey, who Trump fired. The White House has in the past raised concerns over the integrity of the probe but has not said Mueller should resign or suggested that the president would fire him." (The Hill, 12/29/17)

In 2018, Rubio Defended The FBI's Investigation Regarding Possible Ties Between Trump Campaign Officials And Russia. "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) defended the FBI in comments on ABC on Sunday, saying he believes law enforcement was right to investigate "certain individuals" with suspicious histories connected to Russia. Rubio argued the FBI was not investigating President Trump's campaign, but was looking into these individuals, something he said was appropriate. "As far as what I have seen to date, it appears that there was an investigation not of the campaign but of certain individuals who have a history that we should be suspicious of that predate the presidential campaign of 2015, 2016." Rubio said on ABC's "This Week." "When individuals like that are in the orbit of a major political campaign in America, the FBI, who is in charge of counterintelligence investigations, should look at people like that," Rubio added. "But they're not investigating the campaign, they're investigating those people." Rubio made the remarks in response to Trump's argument that the FBI improperly spied on his presidential campaign through the use of the informant. "The Democrats are now alluding to the the concept that having an Informant placed in an opposing party's campaign is different than having a Spy, as illegal as that may be," he tweeted on Friday. "But what about an 'Informant' who is paid a fortune and who 'sets up' way earlier than the Russian Hoax?" It's not clear whether the FBI paid the informant. Rubio did not give a direct answer to questions on ABC about whether Trump's claims were wrong. "I have no evidence that those people were part of an investigation on the campaign. If that exists, I would want to know about it, we should all know about and that — that would be wrong and we should — we should do something about it," he said. "But up to now, what I have seen is evidence that they were investigating individuals with a history of links to Russia that were concerning." Rubio during a separate interview on CBS's "Face the Nation" also said he has seen no evidence of a spy in Trump's campaign. "I haven't seen any yet but maybe there is, and if it's there, we'll find it and we want to know about it.'" (The Hill, 5/27/18)

- **In 2018, Rubio Defended The FBI Surveilling And Investigating Trump Foreign Policy Advisor Carter Page Noting "The @FBI Had Many Reasons To Look Into This Guy. And Looking Into Him Is Not "Spying" On Trump Campaign, Because As The White House Made Clear Last Year, He Was "Not An 'Advisor' To Mr. Trump In Any Sense Of The Word.'"** (Twitter, 6/22/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 22, 2018
The @FBI had many reasons to look into this guy. And looking into him is not "spying" on Trump campaign, because as the White House made clear last year, he was "not an 'advisor' to Mr. Trump in any sense of the word."
CNN @CNN · Jul 22, 2018
GOP Sen. Marco Rubio: "I don't think (the FBI) did anything wrong" in surveilling Carter Page #CNNSOTU cnn.it/2LgFefU cnn.it/2Nx6jZ5
4.8K
1.9K
3.6K

(Twitter, 6/22/18)

Rubio, In 2019: "I've Been Very Clear From The Very Beginning The Best Thing For The Country And For The President Was For The Mueller Probe To Move Forward Unimpeded." (Twitter, 5/24/19)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Mar 24, 2019
I've been very clear from the very beginning the best thing for the country and for the President was for the Mueller probe to move forward unimpeded.
My interview w/ @chucktodd on @MeetThePress on the conclusion of the investigation -->
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MEET THE PRESS
18
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62

(Twitter, 5/24/19)

Criticisms Of Trump's Handling Of Classified Documents

VIDEO: In 2022, Rubio Couched His Defense Of Trump's Handling Of Classified Documents Noting "The Documents That Were At Mar-A-Lago By All Accounts Were Turned Over. Look If The Process Wasn't Followed Then There Needs To Be Something That Happens About That." (Fox News, 2/14/22)



(Fox News, 2/14/22)

In 2023, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump Storing Documents At Mar A Lago Noting They "Should Not Have Been There" But Was More Critical Of An Indictment Having Been Brought Against Trump In The First Place. "Former President Donald Trump is scheduled to appear in a Miami courtroom on Tuesday where he will address an indictment consisting of 37 felony charges related to his handling of classified documents after he left the White House. Trump vehemently denies any wrongdoing in connection with the case. In an interview with "CBS Mornings," Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and author of the new book "Decades of Decadence: How Our Spoiled Elites Blew America's Inheritance of Liberty, Security, and Prosperity," expressed concern about the impact of the indictment on the country — and said it is "political in nature." "When you bring an indictment like this, it's not done in isolation. It's not done in a vacuum. You gotta take a lot of things into account. There's no allegation that there was harm done to the, to the national security. There's no allegation that he sold it to a foreign power or that it was trafficked to somebody else or that anybody got access to it," said Rubio. "You have to weigh the harm of that, or lack thereof, on the harm that this indictment does to the country. This is deeply divisive," he said. He said prosecuting the likely GOP presidential nominee, who will run against an incumbent president, is alone "political in nature," and said there will be "certain harm." This will put institutions into "tremendous crisis," he said. "The judge will be attacked. The process will be attacked. The Department of Justice will be attacked. The prosecutor will be attacked," said Rubio. While the senator said the classified documents found at Mar-a-Lago "should not have been there," he said the indictment "is a separate thing." "You're bringing an indictment that basically alleges no real damage to national security — not that it excuses it — versus what we're going to see now. We're going to subject this country to a divisive spectacle" at a time when we're dealing with major issues. When asked about Trump's leadership qualities, Rubio expressed his belief that Trump could "do a better job" than President Biden as the next leader of the country. He also said he would personally choose Trump over Biden "in a heartbeat." However, he emphasized that the ultimate decision on leadership lies with the voters. "People can debate about who they think it shouldn't be. Voters are going to make that decision. Okay,

bottom line is that our republic will produce a president. Your policies are what we need to hold them to," Rubio said." (CBS News, 6/12/23)

Criticisms Of Trump's Pardoning Decisions

In 2018, "Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) Implored President Trump Not To Pardon Former Campaign Chairman Paul Manafort. "It Would Be A Mistake. And I Would Strongly Counsel Against It," Rubio Told CNN's Jake Tapper." "On Sunday, Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) implored President Trump not to pardon former campaign chairman Paul Manafort. "It would be a mistake. And I would strongly counsel against it," Rubio told CNN's Jake Tapper. The Florida Republican explained that he didn't believe the presidential pardon power was created to use for these types of purposes. "I think it would be the wrong thing to do and I think it would be a huge political mistake as well," Rubio said on "State of the Union." "I hope that doesn't happen." In an Oval Office sit-down with The Post late last month, the president said a pardon for Manafort was "not off the table." "It was never discussed, but I wouldn't take it off the table. Why would I take it off the table?" Trump said. Manafort has been jailed since June and in August was convicted of eight felonies, including bank and tax fraud. He escaped a second trial by filing a guilty plea in September. But on Friday, Special Counsel Robert Mueller's office accused Manafort of violating that plea deal by lying to federal prosecutors about his contacts with the Trump administration. Mueller also accused Manafort of lying about his contact with Konstantin Kilimnik, a former employee who's suspected of having Russian intelligence ties. Speaking to ABC's Martha Raddatz on "This Week," Rubio also suggested that if the president were to pardon Manafort "it could trigger a debate about whether the pardon power should be amended, given these circumstances.'" (*New York Post*, 12/9/18)

Criticisms Of Trump's Policies (Post-2016 Primary)

Criticisms Of Trump's Rhetoric On Race

In June 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump's Racial Attacks Against Judge Gonzalo Curiel. "Four GOP senators joined a growing list of Republicans calling out Donald Trump for his recent remarks that a judge involved in one of his lawsuits could not be impartial because of his ethnicity. Trump, the presumptive GOP presidential nominee , said the federal judge overseeing a lawsuit relating to Trump University should recuse himself from the case because he is of Mexican descent. Judge Gonzalo Curiel , who was born in Indiana, is the son of Mexican immigrants. "Donald Trump's comments on the ethnic heritage and religion of judges are absolutely unacceptable," Sen. Susan Collins said in a statement Monday. " His statement that Judge Curiel could not rule fairly because of his Mexican heritage does not represent our American values." Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, the son of Cuban immigrants, also criticized the remarks in a television interview. "Quite frankly, I'm very disturbed by the way he's talking about this judge. He's an American." Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, another Republican of Cuban descent, said, "Of course, it is inappropriate to be attacking a federal judge's race or ethnicity." On Sunday, Trump also said it is "possible"that a Muslim judge would also be biased against him, during an interview on ABC's "This Week." Trump has called for a temporary ban on Muslims entering the United States.'' (ABC News, 6/6/16)

- **Rubio Noted "I Don't Defend What He Says, And All I Can Tell You Is I Ran For President And I Warned You This Is What Was Going To Happen."** "Joining the chorus of Republicans condemning Donald Trump over his rhetoric toward a federal judge's Mexican heritage, Marco Rubio offered a cutting remark: I warned you. The Florida senator on Monday called on Trump to stop questioning Indiana-born U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel's ability to preside fairly over Trump University fraud cases due to his Mexican heritage but appeared to take solace in having predicted that something like this would happen. "I don't defend what he says, and all I can tell you is I ran for president and I warned you this is what was going to happen," Rubio told WFTV's Christopher Heath. "I consistently said if he became the nominee, we'd face these sorts of difficult choices we now have." Rubio is the latest Republican to decry Trump's remarks on the federal U.S. judge, whom Trump last week said had "an inherent conflict of interest," given his parents are from Mexico and the real estate mogul has proposed building a wall on the southern border that Mexico will pay for. "I think it's wrong," Rubio said of the billionaire's comments toward Curiel. "He needs to stop saying it. That man is an American.'" (*Politico*, 6/6/16)

- **"Rubio Said Trump's Rhetoric Toward Curiel Doesn't Reflect Well On The Republican Party Or "Us As A Nation," Adding That "Some Of The Things He Has Said And Done Aren't Going To Help" The Party Improve Its Relationships With Hispanics."** "Rubio said Trump's rhetoric toward Curiel doesn't reflect well on the Republican Party or "us as a nation," adding that "some of the things he has said and done aren't going to help" the party improve its relationships with Hispanics. "There shouldn't be any sort of ethnicity, religious or racial test for what kind of judges should hear what kind of cases," Rubio said. "If you take that argument and expand it, you can make that argument about anybody in any circumstances. It's wrong and I think he should stop." Though Rubio has endorsed Trump since suspending his presidential campaign in March and has even expressed willingness to speak on his behalf at the Republican National Convention, he distanced himself from the reality star and maintained that he didn't want Trump and Hillary Clinton to be America's choices for president. But voters chose differently. "And I respect that," he said. "I gave my word that I would support the nominee." Trump took his argument a step further Sunday, telling CBS' John Dickerson that a Muslim judge may not be impartial, either, given that he has called for a temporary ban on Muslims. Former presidential candidate John Kasich rebuked Trump's comments about Curiel earlier Monday, urging the presumptive Republican presidential nominee to apologize. Maine Sen. Susan Collins on Monday also responded to Trump's attack, chiding him for his "absolutely unacceptable" remarks. House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell have also condemned Trump's comments on Curiel." (*Politico*, 6/6/16)

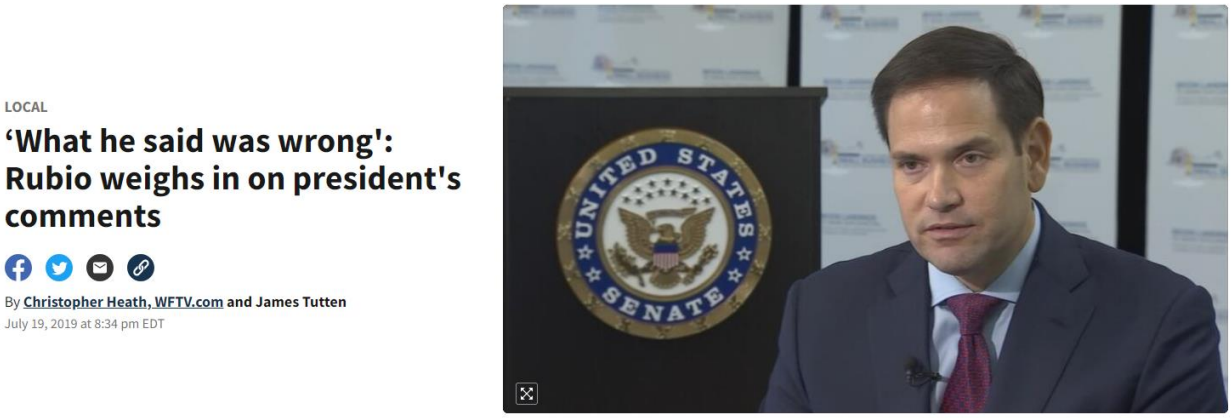
In August 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump's Attacks Against Gold Star Parent Khizr Khan. "Sen. Marco Rubio has become the latest Republican to rebuff Donald Trump over comments about Capt. Humayun Khan's parents but, like others, he did not withdraw his support for the GOP presidential nominee. "I think his parents are heroes and they have a First Amendment right to speak out on their politics, as all Americans do. Their son died for the Constitution, and I honor that," the Florida Republican, a former Trump rival, said Monday in Clearwater, Florida. Khizr Khan, whose son Humayun was killed by a car bomb in 2004 while serving in Iraq, spoke

at the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia last week, where he criticized Trump for his invective against Muslims and asked if he had ever read the U.S. Constitution. In what's become a widely ridiculed statement, Trump said over the weekend, "Mr. Khan who has never met me, has no right to stand in front of millions of people and claim I have never read the Constitution, (which is false) and say many other inaccurate things." The real estate mogul also questioned why Khan's wife, Ghazala Khan, remained silent on stage in Philadelphia, suggesting she wasn't allowed to speak because of her Muslim faith. But as with other Republicans, Rubio's repudiation of Trump's comments came without him withdrawing support for the Republican nominee's White House bid. Earlier in the day, Arizona Sen. John McCain issued a blistering critique of Trump as did the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Sen. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and House Speaker Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin also rejected Trump's comments but did not take back their support for his campaign for president. According to a transcript circulated by his office, Rubio said that on the broader question of Muslim immigration to the United States, the government should know exactly who is entering the country. "We have Americans who are Muslims who are patriotic and love this country, as evidenced by the Khan family. We also know that there are parts of this world, where there are terrorists that are trying to get into the United States, and it's not that we don't want to allow people in, it's that in many cases we can't because we don't have a way to vet them," the senator said. Rubio spoke of falsified passports from Syria that made it difficult to assess the backgrounds of people seeking to enter the country." (Roll Call, 8/1/16)

In August 2017, Rubio Was One Of The Senators Critical Of Trump's Rhetoric In The Aftermath Of Charlottesville. "Republican lawmakers this weekend took President Donald Trump to task over what they deemed a weak response to white supremacist groups and violent clashes in Charlottesville, Virginia, the latest sign that Trump's grip on the party may be weakening. The outspoken group included past Trump antagonists such as Sens. Ben Sasse of Nebraska, Jeff Flake of Arizona and Marco Rubio of Florida, but it also included prominent conservative voices who aren't known as fierce critics of the administration, such as Sens. Orrin Hatch of Utah and Cory Gardner of Colorado. The Republicans joined civil rights leaders and Democrats who reacted angrily when Trump said Saturday he condemned "this egregious display of hatred, bigotry and violence on many sides — on many sides." His repetition of "many sides" struck critics as seeming to equate the white supremacist groups who organized the rally with counterprotesters, though the White House later sought to recast his statement to be more critical of hate groups. One woman was killed and more injured Saturday when a car plowed into a group of counterprotesters. Police later charged a man who had been photographed holding a symbol of one of the groups that organized the Charlottesville event, T he Associated Press reported. "This isn't a time for innuendo or to allow room to be read between the lines. This is a time to lay blame," Gardner, who is considered a rising star in the party, said on CNN on unday. "This president has done an incredible job of naming terrorism around the globe as evil," Gardner continued. "He has said and called it out time and time again. And this president needs to do exactly that today." "We should call evil by its name," Hatch wrote on Twitter Saturday." (*Politico*, 8/13/17)

In 2019, Rubio Criticized Trump's Rallying Cry Of "Send Her Back" Against Ilhan Omar And Contended "What He Said Was Wrong" While Also Noting "I Didn't View That As A

Reflection On America, I View It As A Reflection On The People Who Said It." "In an interview with Eyewitness News, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio decried the heated rhetoric of the last week, including the chants at the latest Trump rally of "send her back." "I didn't view that as a reflection on America, I view it as a reflection on the people who said it," Rubio said. While the senator said what the president said was wrong, he also said that some members of the House have been too quick to cry racism, including leveling charges against their own party in the last week. "Last week they were implying that Nancy Pelosi was a racist, because she called them out, then they hold this press conference where they say we shouldn't be divided on race and the color of our skin and by the way, if you disagree with us on anything, you are a white nationalist and you are a racist," Rubio said. On Sunday, President Trump tweeted, "So interesting to see 'Progressive' Democrat Congresswomen, who originally came from countries whose governments are a complete and total catastrophe, the worst, most corrupt and inept anywhere in the world (if they even have a functioning government at all), now loudly and viciously telling the people of the United States, the greatest and most powerful Nation on earth, how our government is to be run. Why don't they go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came. Then come back and show us how t is done. These places need your help badly, you can't leave fast enough. I'm sure that Nancy Pelosi would be very happy to quickly work out free travel arrangements!" This was followed by a rally midweek in which Trump supporters chanted "send her back," a reference to Congresswoman Ilhan Omar, who was born in Somalia, but became a U.S. citizen in 2000." (WFTV, 7/19/19)


LOCAL

'What he said was wrong': Rubio weighs in on president's comments

By Christopher Heath, WFTV.com and James Tutten

July 19, 2019 at 8:34 pm EDT

(WFTV, 7/19/19)

Criticisms Of Trump's Rhetoric On Women

Rubio, In October 2016, After The Access Hollywood Comments: "Donald's Comments Were Vulgar, Egregious & Impossible To Justify. No One Should Ever Talk About Any Woman In Those Terms, Even In Private." (Twitter, 10/7/16)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
Donald's comments were vulgar, egregious & impossible to justify.
No one should ever talk about any woman in those terms, even in private.
9:29 PM · Oct 7, 2016
4.3K
8.4K
15K
2

(Twitter, 10/7/16)

Criticisms Of Trump's Border Security Policy – National Emergency

In 2019, Rubo Criticized Trump's Efforts To Declare A National Emergency To Build His Proposed Southern Border Wall Noting "We Have A Crisis At Our Southern Border, But No Crisis Justifies Violating The Constitution." "President Donald Trump announced Friday that he is declaring a national emergency, circumventing the legislative branch to secure border wall funding. "We're going to confront the national security crisis on our southern border, and we're going to do it one way or the other, we have to do it," Trump said in a speech from the White House Rose Garden. "I'm going to be signing a national emergency, and it's been signed many times before. It's been signed by other presidents. From 1977 or so, it gave the presidents the power. There's rarely been a problem. They signed it, nobody cares, I guess they weren't very exciting." Trump's declaration comes as he failed to secure congressional support for more than $5 billion he wanted for border security in a broader spending bill that funds a variety of federal agencies. His unilateral move to declare a national emergency is based on the 1976 National Emergencies Act. It's been used 60 times since the law was passed, including after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, when President George W. Bush sought additional powers to organize the military. But Trump's critics assailed the move, accusing the president of manufacturing a crisis and vowing a fight in the courts. "President Trump's personal political predicament does not qualify as a national emergency," said Tampa Democratic Rep Kathy Castor. "He manufactured a national emergency to unlawfully divert funds to his pet project instead of focusing on what matters to American families like lowering health care costs, creating jobs through infrastructure and tackling the climate crisis." House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) said Friday in a joint statement that Trump's actions "clearly violate the Congress's exclusive power of the purse, which our Founders enshrined in the Constitution. The Congress will defend our constitutional authorities in the Congress, in the Courts, and in the public, using every remedy available." Trump fueled his critics by suggesting during his press conference that he didn't "need" to issue the declaration, as he also emphasized that the wall is necessary to block drugs, criminals and gang members from entering the United States. "I could do the wall over a longer period of time, I didn't need to do this, but I'd rather do it much faster," Trump said. Congress does have the

power to end a national emergency declaration from a president, but it would likely mean mustering a veto-proof majority in both chambers, a steep climb in the Republican-controlled Senate. Many Republicans are supportive of Trump's plans, including Florida U.S. Senator Rick Scott, who said he applauded the decision to put "country first" and use his authority to secure the border. "This is a reasoned, measured approach to fulfill his duty as Commander in Chief and keep our country safe, and I appreciate that he kept his word to not repurpose funds designated for disaster relief funding for Florida or Puerto Rico, which I've discussed with him at length. I look forwarding to working with him as Florida continues to rebuild following multiple devastating hurricanes," Scott said. However, Florida's senior U.S. Senator, Marco Rubio, took a dissenting view of Trump's action. He warned that the move could lead future presidents to pursue their own agendas by using emergency declarations. "We have a crisis at our southern border, but no crisis justifies violating the Constitution," Rubio said in a statement. Another president "may use this exact same tactic to impose the Green New Deal," he said, referring to Democrats' proposal to combat climate change." (Florida Phoenix, 2/15/19)

Criticisms Of Trump's Foreign Policy – China

In May 2018, Rubio Issued A Series Of Social Media Posts Contending The Trump Administration Was "Losing" In Its Negotiations With China. "The Florida senator has long tried to distinguish himself from other Republicans on the basis of his foreign policy and national security expertise. A member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Rubio has embraced traditionally hawkish GOP views on China, Russia and the position of the United States on the world stage. He also witnessed firsthand in the 2016 presidential campaign the power of a protectionist trade message, on which Trump ran successfully. Rubio tweeted Tuesday that China was "out-negotiating the administration & winning the trade talks right now." He added: "This is #NotWinning." On Monday, Rubio wrote that China "is winning the negotiations," using the hashtag "#Losing." He's warned that releasing restrictions on the Chinese firm, which is partly owned by the government, could put U.S. national security and intellectual property at risk. Rubio's allies say the tweets enable him to potentially grab Trump's attention. "That's how you get things done with this administration. When Marco tweets, Fox picks it up, and that's how the president sees it," said one informal adviser to Rubio, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to be more candid. But a Republican consultant close to the White House called the tweets "shortsighted." "What does Rubio get out of it? It will definitely get Trump's attention, and Trump will choose to smack him down. What's Rubio's endgame?" asked the consultant, who also spoke on the condition of anonymity to openly share an assessment. The White House did not respond to a request for comment on Rubio. Rebutting the criticism that he was being too soft on China, Trump said Tuesday, "For those who say maybe Trump is getting a little bit easy — ZTE, we closed it." Rubio is far from the only lawmaker who has been issuing rebukes or caution on China and ZTE. But the Florida senator has been one of the sharpest critics. "In the case of ZTE, I believe it's not so much a trade or economic issue as it is a national security issue," said Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), vice chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, offering a more measured take than Rubio has this week, but making the same general argument that the Floridian offered earlier this month. "And I'm sure we'll continue to have conversations about that." Where Rubio goes from here is not completely clear. He said Tuesday he plans to

"begin working on veto-proof congressional action." In the past, Rubio has moved back from a contentious position after first leaning in." (*The Washington Post*, 5/23/18)

In 2018, Rubio Criticized Trump For Reportedly Considering Backing Away From Limits On Chinese Investments, Noting "If In Fact President Trump Is Now Backtracking On Tough Limits On Chinese Investment, It Is A VERY BIG MISTAKE. #China Is Strategically Buying Up U.S. Companies Specializing In Cutting Edge Technology. What They Don't Steal From Us They Buy Away From Us." (Twitter, 6/27/18)

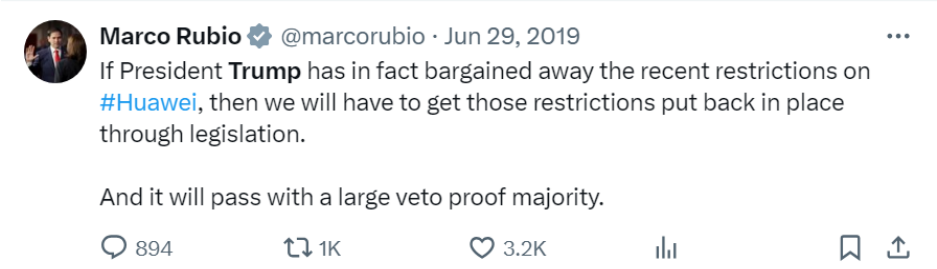

Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jun 27, 2018
If in fact President Trump is now backtracking on tough limits on Chinese investment, it is a VERY BIG MISTAKE. #China is strategically buying up U.S. companies specializing in cutting edge technology. What they don't steal from us they buy away from us
Trump Eases Demand for New Tools to Limit Chinese Investment
From wsj.com
145
217
457

(Twitter, 6/27/18)

In 2019, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump's Apparent Easing Of Restrictions On Huawei And Noted That To Follow Through With Such A Policy Would Be A "Catastrophic Mistake." (Twitter, 6/29/19)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jun 29, 2019
If President Trump has agreed to reverse recent sanctions against #Huawei he has made a catastrophic mistake.
It will destroy the credibility of his administrations warnings about the threat posed by the company,no one will ever again take them seriously.
U.S. and China agree to restart trade negotiations following meeting between Tr...
From washingtonpost.com
2K
1.3K
3K

([Twitter](), 6/29/19)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jun 29, 2019
If President Trump has in fact bargained away the recent restrictions on #Huawei, then we will have to get those restrictions put back in place through legislation.
And it will pass with a large veto proof majority.
894
1K
3.2K

([Twitter](), 6/29/19)

Criticisms Of Trump's Foreign Policy – NATO

In July 2016, Rubio Disagreed "With Donald Trump's Suggestion That The United States Shouldn't Automatically Come To The Defense Of Fellow NATO Members If They Are Attacked." "Sen. Marco Rubio said Thursday that he disagrees with Donald Trump's suggestion that the United States shouldn't automatically come to the defense of fellow NATO members if they are attacked. "My hope is that if Donald is elected president, we can convince him to change his mind on that," Rubio said. "And, if he doesn't, we'll obviously have to oppose that because if Article 5 is in doubt, then the whole NATO alliance could collapse." Article 5 of the NATO Treaty lays out that an attack on one member amounts to an attack on all members, and that fellow NATO states must help the one that was struck. Trump's comments about NATO, delivered in a lengthy interview with The New York Times, were just his latest bombshell on the foreign policy front. The Republican presidential nominee has offered a radically different view

of U.S. engagement with the world than many in his own party hold — one that is defined primarily in economic terms and which does not hold treaties sacrosanct. In the Times interview, which came ahead of his speech Thursday night at the Republican National Convention, Trump also said he would not chide authoritarian leaders for cracking down on civil liberties or purging their political rivals; that he'd pull the U.S. out of the North American Free Trade Agreement if Canada and Mexico didn't agree to better terms; and that he may pull back U.S. troops deployed around the world, even from highly sensitive areas such as the Korean peninsula. But it was the real estate mogul's comments on NATO that produced the most international hand-wringing." (*Politico*, 7/21/16)

In 2019, Rubio Joined A Bipartisan Group Of Senators Sponsoring Legislation "That Would Prevent The President From Withdrawing From The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Without Senate Approval." "A bipartisan group of senators on Thursday reintroduced a bill that would prevent the president from withdrawing from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) without Senate approval. The bill, introduced by four Democrats and four Republicans, would require two-thirds approval from the Senate for a president to suspend, terminate or withdraw the United States from NATO. "President Trump's repeated threats to withdraw from NATO are dangerous," Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.) said in a statement announcing the bill's reintroduction. "Our NATO allies have fought alongside our troops since World War II, yet President Trump disparages these nations and cozies up to our adversaries." The other co-sponsors are Sens. Cory Gardner (R-Colo.), Jack Reed (D-R.I.), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Chris Coons (D-Del.), Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) and Susan Collins (R-Maine). The same bill was introduced last year after Trump rattled NATO allies at a July summit in Brussels. The sponsors last time were Kaine, Gardner, Reed and the late Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.). The reintroduction comes after a New York Times report that Trump told aides several times last year that he wants to withdraw from NATO. One of the occasions when Trump reportedly raised the issue of withdrawal was the lead-up to the NATO summit in July, when he told his top national security officials he did not see the point of the alliance and thought it was a drain on the United States. Right now, presidents are required to get the consent of the Senate to enter into treaties. Article 13 of the NATO treaty requires a country give a one-year "notice of denunciation" before it can exit NATO. In addition to requiring Senate approval for Trump to withdraw, the bill reintroduced Thursday would authorize the Senate Legal Counsel and the General Counsel of the House to challenge in court any attempt by the administration to withdraw from NATO without the Senate's consent. In statements touting the resolution, the co-sponsors stressed the importance of a strong NATO alliance. "NATO is more important than ever with Russia's growing subversive activities in the region and beyond," Rubio said. "It is critical to our national security and the security of our allies in Europe that the United States remain engaged and play an active role in NATO.'" (*The Hill*, 1/17/19)

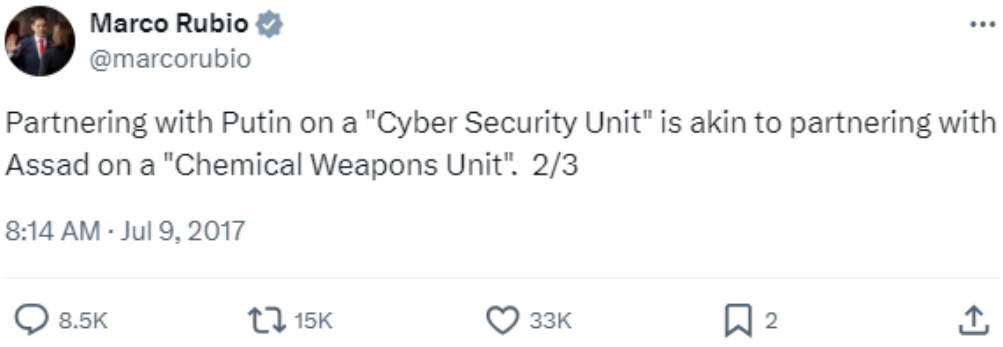
Criticisms Of Trump's Foreign Policy – Russia

In 2017, Rubio Criticized Trump's Suggestion To Pair With Russia On Cybersecurity Measures. "After returning from the G-20 conference, Donald Trump emitted a storming Twitter assessment of his successes, including progress on cybersecurity. Many believe Russia used hacking to meddle in the US election. Indeed, the president declared: "I strongly pressed

President Putin twice about Russian meddling in our election. He vehemently denied it. I've already given my opinion...." It's not always been clear what that opinion is. Still, Trump added these words on the alleged hacking in another tweet: "Why did Obama do NOTHING when he had info before election?" It might seem discordant, therefore, that he also tweeted: "Putin & I discussed forming an impenetrable Cyber Security unit so that election hacking, & many other negative things, will be guarded.." The US security services seem to agree that Russia was responsible for the hacking. Why, then, would the US band together with Russia in order to create something "impenetrable" to prevent further hacking? Some might worry that Russia might find a way around that claimed impenetrability. Within minutes of Trump's tweetstorm, GOP Sen. Marco Rubio took to Twitter to express his opposition. "While reality & pragmatism requires that we engage Vladimir Putin, he will never be a trusted ally or a reliable constructive partner," he began. And then he hissed: "Partnering with Putin on a 'Cyber Security Unit' is akin to partnering with Assad on a 'Chemical Weapons Unit.'" (CNET, 7/9/17)

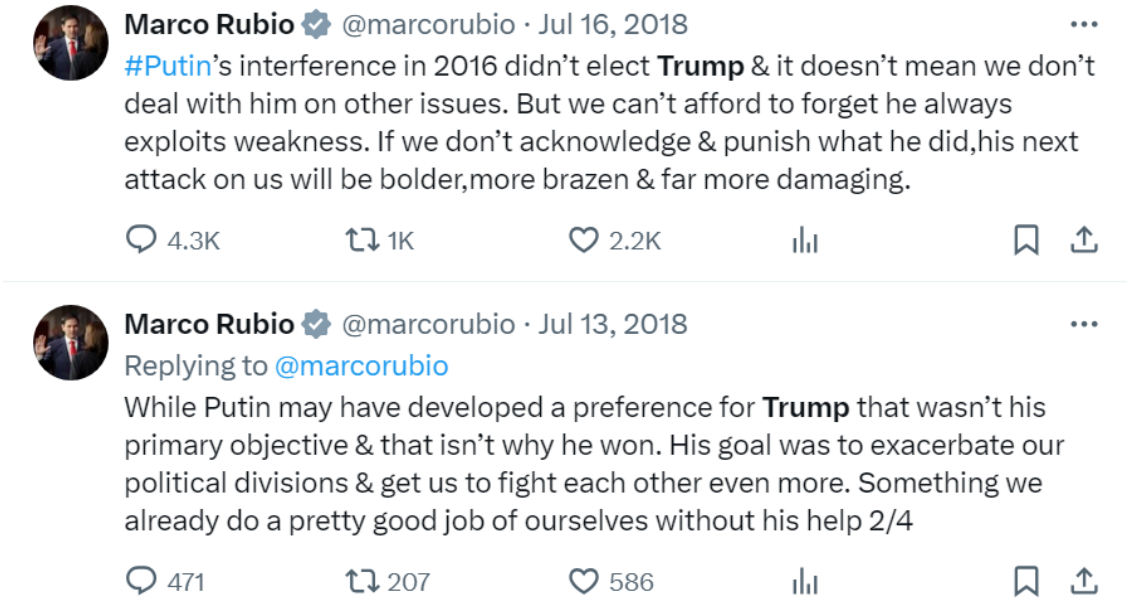

Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
While reality & pragmatism requires that we engage Vladimir Putin, he will never be a trusted ally or a reliable constructive partner. 1/3
8:10 AM · Jul 9, 2017
927
1.3K
4.3K

(Twitter, 7/9/17)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
Partnering with Putin on a "Cyber Security Unit" is akin to partnering with Assad on a "Chemical Weapons Unit". 2/3
8:14 AM · Jul 9, 2017
8.5K
15K
33K
2

(Twitter, 7/9/17)

In 2018, Rubio Underscored That Putin Interfered In The 2016 Election, Developed A Preference For Trump, And Should Be Punished For Having Done So. (Twitter, 7/16/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 16, 2018
#Putin's interference in 2016 didn't elect Trump & it doesn't mean we don't deal with him on other issues. But we can't afford to forget he always exploits weakness. If we don't acknowledge & punish what he did,his next attack on us will be bolder,more brazen & far more damaging.
4.3K
1K
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Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 13, 2018
Replying to @marcorubio
While Putin may have developed a preference for Trump that wasn't his primary objective & that isn't why he won. His goal was to exacerbate our political divisions & get us to fight each other even more. Something we already do a pretty good job of ourselves without his help 2/4
471
207
586

(Twitter, 7/16/18)

In 2018, Rubio Did Not Criticize Trump For Meeting With Putin In Finland But Was Critical Of How The Meeting Had Left "The Impression That My Intelligence Community Says One Thing, Putin Says Another, I'm Siding With Putin, And That Was A Bad Impression To Leave Behind." "Florida GOP Sen. Marco Rubio said Sunday that he supports President Donald Trump interacting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, but said Trump should be aware of Putin's human rights record and zero-sum approach to the US-Russia relationship. "I don't have a problem with the President of the United States interacting with the president of the Russian Federation," Rubio said. "They've got a lot of nuclear weapons, and so we do need to interact with them. That is separate from the question of whether or not we should be clear-eyed about who Putin is." Rubio, who made his comments in an interview on CNN's "State of the Union," said he regretted Trump's handling of his meeting with Putin in Helsinki, Finland, last week, where he appeared to side with Putin over the US intelligence community on alleged Russian efforts to influence the 2016 election. Trump clarified his remarks after returning to the United States, saying that after reviewing a transcript and video of his statements, he realized he had misspoken in a key sentence about Russian interference in the 2016 US election. "The sentence should have been: 'I don't see any reason why it wouldn't be Russia,' " he said. "Sort of a double negative." Referring to Trump's claim later that he meant to say "wouldn't" instead of "would" at the summit, Rubio said, "I'm glad he came back the next day and sort of walked that back." Rubio said he did not "know what to believe" about Trump's "would" versus "wouldn't" remarks, but he reiterated that he was glad Trump tried to walk back the remark. "I don't think it was a good moment for this administration, and I disagreed with it," Rubio said. "I know he came back the next day and said something to clean that up. And I'm glad that he did it, you know? I'm glad that he cleaned that up because it left, if you watched that video, it leaves the impression that my intelligence community says one thing, Putin says another, I'm siding with Putin, and that was a bad impression to leave behind." He added, "I don't like the way this was handled.'" (CNN, 7/22/18)

In 2018, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump's Rhetoric For Not Reflecting The Threat Posed By Russia And Putin But Did Not The Trump Administration's Policies Did So. "Rubio counts himself as one of Putin's chief critics in Washington, and in his interview Sunday, he accused Putin of perpetrating war crimes and killing political opponents. He said that because of Trump's lack of political background, there was at times a clash between Trump's approach to Putin and the more hardline approach other politicians might have delivered in his position. "I don't have any doubt that President Trump is aware of the things Vladimir Putin has done," Rubio said. "I'm not sure his rhetoric reflects that, but his policies do." In his assessment of Putin, Rubio said he did not believe the Russian leader expected a better relationship with the United States and was more "interested in gaining advantage at our expense and to his benefit.'" (CNN, 7/22/18)

In 2019, Rubio Was Among The Senators To Vote "To Advance Legislation Blocking President Trump's Plan To Lift Sanctions Against Three Russian Companies Despite An Eleventh-Hour Effort By The Administration To Kill The Bill." "The Senate voted to advance legislation blocking President Trump's plan to lift sanctions against three Russian companies despite an eleventh-hour effort by the administration to kill the bill. Senators voted 57-42 to begin debating the resolution, with only a simple majority needed to get over the initial hurdle. Though only a procedural vote, it's the latest foreign policy break between the Trump administration and Senate Republicans, who have been wary of his warmer rhetoric toward Moscow. It comes amid reports that the president has discussed pulling the United States out of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). "I do disapprove of the easing of the sanctions because I think it sends the wrong message to Russia and to the oligarch and close ally of Mr. Putin, Oleg Deripaska, who will in my judgement continue to maintain considerable [ownership] under the Treasury's plan," Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine) told reporters. {mosads}In addition to Collins, GOP Sens. John Boozman (Ark.), Tom Cotton (Ark.), Steve Daines (Mont.) Cory Gardner (Colo.), Josh Hawley (Mo.), John Kennedy (La.), Martha McSally (Ariz.), Jerry Moran (Kan.), Marco Rubio (Fla.) and Ben Sasse (Neb.) voted to proceed to the resolution on Tuesday. The same senators also helped block a separate effort from Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) to pigeonhole the measure. The setback for the administration comes after it announced plans late last month to relax sanctions on the three businesses — Rusal, EN+ and EuroSibEnerg — connected to Oleg Deripaska, an oligarch with ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Under the 2017 sanctions bill, Democrats are able to force a vote on a resolution to block the administration from lifting the financial penalties. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin led a lobbying effort to try to squelch concerns on Capitol Hill about the decision. He met with House Democrats last week and pitched Senate Republicans during a closed-door lunch Tuesday, hours before the vote. Mnuchin declined to say if he believed the administration had the votes to prevent the Senate from passing the resolution of disapproval but argued it shouldn't be a "political issue." But he added that the administration believed the sanctions against the three companies should be lifted because Deripaska's ownership in the entities has fallen below 50 percent. "We put together an agreement that we think meets the requirements of the laws and the regulations to do this," Mnuchin said. {mossecondads}Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) echoed Mnuchin in opposing the resolution to block the sanctions from being lifted. "I will vote 'no' today because this was a hard-fought negotiation resulting in one of the strongest agreements ever, which supports long-standing U.S. sanctions policy and foreign policy toward Russia," he

said. GOP leadership had been tight-lipped about whether they would be able to pull together the simple majority needed to sink the Democratic resolution, noting a swath of their members wanted to hear from Mnuchin. Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.) said "a lot of our members are anxious to ask questions" of the Trump administration before the vote. "Whether we get on it, is still kind of an open question, I think," Thune said. McConnell separately knocked Democrats for forcing the Russia vote even as they are blocking a GOP foreign policy bill as part of their shutdown strategy. "It was all just a farce. The Democratic leader doesn't actually mind doing other business because he now intends to bring a privileged and political stunt of a motion relating to the administration's use of sanctions against Russia," McConnell said. Democrats needed to win over at least four Republicans to advance the resolution, provided they could also unite their own caucus. They could still face a 60-vote threshold filibuster of the measure before a final passage vote, which would require them to get 13 GOP senators. Gardner, a member of the Foreign Relations Committee and a vulnerable 2020 incumbent, said on Tuesday that he would support the resolution. "I anticipate voting to overturn the decision by the administration," Gardner told reporters. Rubio added that while he "appreciated" the Treasury Department's effort, "for all intents and purposes between his shares, the independent shares that the Russian state owned bank control, and various other individual shareholders I still think he retains operational control … So they're going to have to do better." Democrats announced over the weekend that they would force a vote to stop the Trump administration from being able to lift the sanctions." (*The Hill*, 1/15/19)

In 2022, Rubio Said It Was "Unfortunate" Trump Was Using Language In Seeming Praise Of Putin And Called On Trump To Be More "Careful" With His Wording. "Donald Trump may have called Vladimir Putin "savvy" and a "genius," but to U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio those controversial comments are just sarcasm. Rubio, who continues to do multiple interviews a day on the Ukraine crisis, was asked Tuesday about Trump's comments made last week on a conservative talk radio program, where the former President seemed to extol the Russian leader and possible war criminal for smart moves in invading Ukraine last week. "I heard that interview, OK? I'm not going off the press reports. I heard the interview. I didn't hear him say that. I heard what I heard. A guy who was being sarcastic. He was saying, 'Oh, look at this guy, he's a genius, this, that and the other," Rubio said on CNBC's Squawk Box Tuesday. "The problem is people think Donald Trump is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He doesn't talk like that! He doesn't talk like some analyst at a think tank. He doesn't talk like most people in Washington," Rubio added. "But right after he said that stuff — and I don't agree with all the stuff he's said about Russia — right after he said all that stuff that people are pointing to, he talked about how we need to impose crushing sanctions," Rubio continued. Despite advocating said crushing sanctions, the fact remains Trump offered a singularly dichotomous comparison of the American and Russian leaders in extended comments last week. "Well, what went wrong was a rigged election, and what went wrong is a candidate that shouldn't be there and a man that has no concept of what he's doing. I went in yesterday and there was a television screen, and I said, 'This is genius.' Putin declares a big portion of the Ukraine — of Ukraine — Putin declares it as independent. Oh, that's wonderful," Trump said on the Clay Travis and Buck Sexton program. Though the transcript includes the descriptor "(sarcastic)" after Trump's "Oh, that's wonderful," the sarcasm did not apply to the preceding statements. Trump has been very

clear in his position that the 2020 election was not legitimate, and he has routinely bashed Biden's competency as well. The former President continued in tones of admiration that didn't seem especially sarcastic. "So, Putin is now saying it's independent, a large section of Ukraine. I said, 'How smart is that?' And he's gonna go in and be a peacekeeper. That's the strongest peace force, we could use that on our southern border. That's the strongest peace force I've ever seen. There were more army tanks than I've ever seen. They're gonna keep peace all right. No, but think of it. Here's a guy who's very savvy. I know him very well. Very, very well," Trump said. "You gotta say that's pretty savvy. And you know what the response was from Biden? There was no response. They didn't have one for that. No, it's very sad. Very sad," Trump added. Rubio said it was "unfortunate" that Trump used that language, arguing that other Republicans used language praising Putin's savvy that was "twisted." "You gotta be careful with every word that you say, because a media narrative will be created against you," Rubio said." (Florida Politics, 3/1/22)

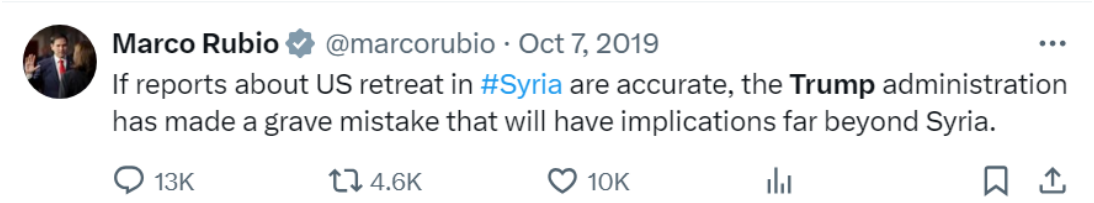
Criticisms Of Trump's Foreign Policy – North Korea

In 2019, Rubio "Said President Donald Trump's Tweet That He Would Reverse Sanctions On North Korea That Had Just Been Imposed By The Treasury Department Could Cause People To Second-Guess Future Announcements Of Sanctions." "Sen. Marco Rubio on Sunday said President Donald Trump's tweet that he would reverse sanctions on North Korea that had just been imposed by the Treasury Department could cause people to second-guess future announcements of sanctions. Rubio (R-Fla.) said sanctions go through "a long interagency process" and must be OK'd by the president before they are announced. "Frankly, look, I think people around the world would look at it and say from now on, when they hear about sanctions, they're going to ask for a double confirmation from the White House," he said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "So, look, I wish it hadn't happened that way, and it shouldn't have happened that way." Trump's Friday tweet set off widespread confusion when he appeared to announce that he would undo recently imposed sanctions on North Korea. "It was announced today by the U.S. Treasury that additional large scale Sanctions would be added to those already existing Sanctions on North Korea," Trump wrote. "I have today ordered the withdrawal of those additional Sanctions!" After hours of uncertainty, administration officials insisted Trump had not been referring to the new sanctions on North Korea that his administration rolled out a day before. Instead, the officials claimed, the president was saying he was opposing not-yet-announced sanctions on Pyongyang. "I've never seen that before from this or any administration, so something happened here," Rubio said." (*Politico*, 3/24/19)

In 2019, Rubio "Also Said He's Skeptical That Ongoing Negotiations Between Trump And North Korean Dictator Kim Jong Un Would Lead The Asian Country To Give Up Its Nuclear Weapons." "The senator also said he's skeptical that ongoing negotiations between Trump and North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un would lead the Asian country to give up its nuclear weapons. "I would love for Kim Jong Un to give up his weapons and everything else," Rubio said. "And I don't criticize the president for trying. I just never believed he would. I don't believe he ever will. "I'm not skeptical because I want it to fail; I'm skeptical because I believe it will fail," he said." (*Politico*, 3/24/19)

Criticisms Of Trump's Foreign Policy – Syria

In October 2019, Rubio Criticized Trump's Decision To Withdraw Troops For Northeast Syria Noting "If Reports About US Retreat In #Syria Are Accurate, The Trump Administration Has Made A Grave Mistake That Will Have Implications Far Beyond Syria." (Twitter, 10/7/19)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Oct 7, 2019
If reports about US retreat in #Syria are accurate, the Trump administration has made a grave mistake that will have implications far beyond Syria.
13K
4.6K
10K

(Twitter, 10/7/19)

In December 2018, Rubio Was Among The Senators To "A Letter To President Trump… Asking Him To Reconsider His Decision To Begin Withdrawing Troops From Syria." "A bipartisan group of senators sent a letter to President Trump on Wednesday asking him to reconsider his decision to begin withdrawing troops from Syria. In the letter, Sens. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), Joni Ernst (R-Iowa), Angus King (I-Maine), Tom Cotton (R-Ark.) and Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), expressed concern that withdrawing U.S. troops from Syria would "renew and embolden" ISIS's efforts in the region. "We write today to express our concern regarding your Administration's consideration to withdraw U.S. forces from Syria," the senators wrote. "We believe that such action at this time is a premature and costly mistake that not only threatens the safety and security of the United States, but also emboldens ISIS, Bashar al Assad, Iran, and Russia." {mosads}"If you decide to follow through with your decision to pull our troops out of Syria, any remnants of ISIS in Syria will surely renew and embolden their efforts in the region," they continued. "However, ISIS is not the only threat. The brutal dictatorship of Bashar al Assad continues to weigh heavily upon the Syrian people, and we fear that a withdrawal of our troops may embolden Bashar al Assad to take further actions to solidify his power," they added. The senators also said they believed removing American presence from Syria would give a boost to "two other adversaries," Iran and Russia. "As you are aware, both Iran and Russia have used the Syrian conflict as a stage to magnify their influence in the region," the senators wrote. "Any sign of weakness perceived by Iran or Russia will only result in their increased presence in the region and a decrease in the trust of our partners and allies." The senators urged the president not to "repeat the same mistakes" made by administrations before his. "Your administration must not repeat the same mistakes that previous administrations have made and concede to these bad actors," they wrote. Trump declared victory against ISIS in Syria on Wednesday morning in a tweet after The Wall Street Journal, followed by The Washington Post, reported that he was preparing an immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Syria. "We have defeated ISIS in Syria, my only reason for being there during the Trump Presidency," the president tweeted. The White House confirmed in a statement Wednesday that the administration has "started returning United States troops home" but emphasized that coalition efforts in Syria would continue. It also doubled down on Trump's claim that "the United States has defeated the territorial caliphate." "The United States and our allies stand ready to re-engage at all levels to

defend American interests whenever necessary, and we will continue to work together to deny radical Islamist terrorists territory, funding, support, and any means of infiltrating our borders," White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said in a statement. Senate Republicans, in a rare move, lashed out at Trump over the decision, with several lawmakers saying Congress received no warning of Trump's announcement. "It's a terrible decision," Rubio said earlier Wednesday. "I hope it can be entirely or at least partially reversed, or we're going to pay a big price for it in the years to come." "I don't know what they've done, but this is chaos," Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), a staunch Trump ally and Armed Services Committee member, told reporters earlier that day." (The Hill, 12/19/18)

Criticisms Of Trump's Foreign Policy – Rex Tillerson

In 2017, "After Voicing Concerns About Rex Tillerson's Views On Russia After Trump Nominated Him As Secretary Of State, Rubio Ultimately Voted To Confirm Him." "Last year, after voicing concerns about Rex Tillerson's views on Russia after Trump nominated him as secretary of state, Rubio ultimately voted to confirm him. And in 2013, Rubio was part of a bipartisan "Gang of Eight" senators who crafted a sweeping rewrite of the nation's immigration laws that included a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants. Later, he disavowed the plan, which came under heavy criticism from conservatives." (*The Washington Post*, 5/23/18)

Previously, "Opposition To Rex Tillerson As The Next Secretary Of State Heightened Tuesday As Marco Rubio, A Key Republican Vote On The Panel That Oversees His Confirmation, Said He Had "Serious Concerns About His Nomination.'" "Opposition to Rex Tillerson as the next secretary of state heightened Tuesday as Marco Rubio, a key Republican vote on the panel that oversees his confirmation, said he had "serious concerns about his nomination." Donald Trump said Tuesday morning he would nominate the ExxonMobil CEO to the nation's top diplomatic post, and the announcement did not split Washington along strictly partisan lines. Some Republican foreign policy hawks, like Rubio, have expressed discomfort with Tillerson's ties to Russia. Rubio sits on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the panel that will have to approve the nominee before the full Senate can vote on Tillerson. Republicans will likely only hold a one-seat advantage on the committee, meaning that Democrats along with any single Republicans can possibly scuttle the nomination. "While Rex Tillerson is a respected businessman, I have serious concerns about his nomination," Rubio said in a statement. "The next secretary of state must be someone who views the world with moral clarity, is free of potential conflicts of interest, has a clear sense of America's interests, and will be a forceful advocate for America's foreign policy goals to the president, within the administration, and on the world stage. I look forward to learning more about his record and his views." Meanwhile, Trump critics and allies raced to define the international business executive. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, a Democrat from Minnesota, said the Republicans' initial reaction to Tillerson indicated there was "bipartisan concern" about his Russia ties. "I'm sure he has excellent business credential, but Donald Trump has chosen to put someone in as the nominee who does not have foreign policy or diplomatic experience and has these ties to Russia," she told CNN's Poppy Harlow on "New Day." And Rudy Giuliani, the close Trump associate who was passed over for the secretary of state posting, told CNN's Chris Cuomo that while he did not know Tillerson well, he was confident in him and would not say that he would be a better State candidate than

Tillerson. "It's hard to say: Who would've been better as secretary of state? You find that out three or four years from now," he said." (CNN, 12/13/16)

Criticisms Of Trump's Economic Policy – Tariffs

In 2018, Rubio Argued Trump "Should Drop Tariff Fight With Our Allies In Europe, Asia And Latin America. We Can Work Out Our Differences With Them Later." (Twitter, 5/3/18)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · May 3, 2018
This is why Trump administration should drop tariff fight with our allies in Europe, Asia and Latin America. We can work out our differences with them later. Right now the focus needs to be on #China & our allies appear ready to join us.
EU Is Ready to Fight Back Against China's Growing Trade Dominance
From bloomberg.com
177
164
399

(Twitter, 5/3/18)

Criticisms Of Trump's Economic Policy – Tax Reform

"Rubio Voted For The GOP Tax Law Last Year. But Some Republicans Believe He Complicated The Party's Vigorous Defense Of The Measure With Recent Comments To The Economist Magazine About Corporations." "Rubio voted for the GOP tax law last year. But some Republicans believe he complicated the party's vigorous defense of the measure with recent comments to the Economist magazine about corporations. The senator's advisers said that where he agrees with Trump, he will have no reservations about saying so, and when he disagrees, he will also speak out. The Florida senator has found ways to work with Trump on foreign policy, including on his harder-line Cuba policy that marked a shift from the Obama administration's approach. Rubio has also praised officials who are working with Trump to shape policies abroad, including Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin. But he is also trying to fashion his own brand, which took a significant hit in the 2016 presidential primary. Trump labeled him "Little Marco" to devastating effect. Rubio ended his campaign in his home state after Trump defeated him there by a wide margin." (*The Washington Post*, 5/23/18)

Criticisms Of Trump's Law And Order Policy – First Step Act

In December 2018, "Sen. Marco Rubio Was One Of Just 12 Senators To Vote Against The First Step Act, A Bipartisan Criminal Justice Bill That Overwhelmingly Passed The Senate On Tuesday Night." "Sen. Marco Rubio was one of just 12 Senators to vote against the First Step Act, a bipartisan criminal justice bill that overwhelmingly passed the Senate on Tuesday night. The bill, backed by the White House and a coalition of Republicans and Democrats, would retroactively reduce the disparity in prison sentences for people arrested for crack vs cocaine, gives judges more discretion at sentencing and eases the so-called "three strike rule" so repeat offenders are guaranteed 25 years of prison, not life. It also included more money for post-prison rehabilitation programs and halfway houses, and to study methods for reducing recidivism rates. Advocates for the bill, mainly criminal justice reform groups, lobbied hard for Rubio's support. But in a brief statement Tuesday night, Rubio vaguely said the bill "did not address serious concerns raised by local law enforcement, federal prosecutors and constituents in Florida about the sentencing reforms in this bill." "As I've said before, reforms to our criminal justice system are needed because 95 percent of federal inmates will be released at some point," he added. "Preparing them to integrate into society and find meaningful work is in our best interests, but we must always err on the side of public safety." He elaborated his opposition somewhat on Fox News radio yesterday. Here's what he said: "Let me just tell you that I think everyone is in favor of the first part of that bill which I've long supported as a separate bill and that is the idea that if someone is going to get out of jail anyway, they're scheduled to be out of jail in 10 years, 5 years or 15 years it behooves us, it's in our interest, to make sure that those people have training and those people have skills acquisition and the kinds of things that you need in order to be successful so you don't go back to jail. The second part of it is what's troubling and that is the incentive that they want to use to get these people to take these services is a reduction on the back end, a credit time, credit for the back end where they're able to serve part of the sentence in a halfway house or even in non-detention home probation. Whatever it might be. And then on the front end also reducing some mandatory sentences for certain cases. That's the part that I get nervous about because ultimately you're talking about some very bad people that have done some horrible things. We have to be very careful when we start walking in that direction. I think mandatory minimum sentences can sometimes have impacts that you look at it and say aren't fair, but we also have to recognize mandatory and minimum sentences have taken really terrible human beings off the streets for long periods of time. The best way to prevent a criminal from committing another crime is to not let them get out there…I'm not sure given the Amendments that are out there that they could ever get to the point where I'm 100% confident. I don't understand why we didn't just do this for a small select group of crimes and start from there and build it up as oppose to the reverse, but they've decided to take a huge bite of the apple. If I'm uncomfortable in the end I'm going to air on the side of public safety and vote against it.""" (*Tampa Bay Times*, 12/19/18)

Rubio Voted Nay On S 765, The First Step Act Of 2018. (S 756, Bill Pass – Senate (87-12), U.S. Senate, 12/18/18, Rubio Voted Nay)

- NOTE: "This bill directs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to establish a risk and needs assessment system to evaluate the recidivism risk of prisoners; to guide housing,

> grouping, and program assignments; and to incentivize and reward participation in and completion of recidivism reduction programs and productive activities…This bill reduces, and restricts the application of, the enhanced mandatory minimum prison terms for certain repeat drug offenses involving high-level drug quantities…" (S 756)

According To Analysis By FiveThirtyEight, Sen. Rubio Voted In A Manner Against The Trump Administration. ("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

Dec. 18, 2018	Making changes to federal sentencing and prison laws (87-12)	Support	No

("Tracking Congress In The Age Of Trump," FiveThirtyEight, Accessed March 2024)

***Vox*: "The Measure, Which Trump Signed Into Law, Is The Most Significant Criminal Justice Reform Legislation In Years."** (German Lopez, "The First Step Act, Explained," *Vox*, 2/5/19)

"The First Step Act, Which Passed With Overwhelming Support From Republicans And Democrats, Takes Modest Steps To Alter The Federal Criminal Justice System And Ease Very Punitive Prison Sentences At The Federal Level." "The First Step Act, which passed with overwhelming support from Republicans and Democrats, takes modest steps to alter the federal criminal justice system and ease very punitive prison sentences at the federal level. It affects only the federal system — which, with about 181,000 imprisoned people, holds a small but significant fraction of the US jail and prison population of 2.1 million. Essentially, the law allows thousands of people to earn an earlier release from prison and could cut many more prison sentences in the future." (German Lopez, "The First Step Act, Explained," *Vox*, 2/5/19)

Trump: "This Legislation Reformed Sentencing Laws That Have Wrongly And Disproportionately Harmed The African-American Community." "In his State of the Union speech on Tuesday, President Donald Trump held up criminal justice reform legislation as one of his big accomplishments… 'This legislation reformed sentencing laws that have wrongly and disproportionately harmed the African-American community,' Trump said. 'The First Step Act gives nonviolent offenders the chance to reenter society as productive, law-abiding citizens. Now, states across the country are following our lead. America is a nation that believes in redemption.'" (German Lopez, "The First Step Act, Explained," *Vox*, 2/5/19)

As A Result Of The Trump-Backed Legislation, Thousands Of Federal Inmates Were Released From Prison. "Nearly 3,100 federal inmates will walk out of prison on Friday as a provision of the sweeping criminal justice reform act passed by Congress takes effect. The mass release – the largest since the First Step Act was signed into law after a rare bipartisan push last year – applies mostly to drug offenders and inmates serving sentences for weapons charges. It was initiated by a recalculation of the number of days inmates accrue each year for good behavior that was applied retroactively under the new law." (David Shortell, "Thousands Of Prisoners Released As New Reform Effort Takes Effect," CNN, 7/19/19)

The Landmark Legislation Was Frequently Touted By Trump As One Of His Administration's Successes During The Course Of The 2020 Campaign. "President Trump has presented himself as an advocate of criminal justice reform, emphasizing the legislation he signed in 2018 in campaign remarks and appeals to black voters as well as white voters uncomfortable with his handling of race matters. He often touts his criminal justice reform while attacking his rival, former vice president Joe Biden, or defending himself against accusations of racism." (*The Washington Post*, 6/23/20)

Criticisms Of Trump's Handling Of COVID

VIDEO: In 2020, Rubio Was Critical Of Trump's Handling Of COVID And His Push To Reopen By Easter Noting "I Don't Think We Can Solely Make This Decision On The Basis Of Economics Because You Can't Have A Growing Economy If You've Got A Significant Percentage Of Your Population Dying And Your Hospitals Aren't Working." (Fox News, 3/25/20)


FOX NEWS
SEN RUBIO (R-FL): SYSTEMS ARE NOT SET UP TO HANDLE 20%-25% UNEMPLOYMENT
YOUR WORLD | CAVUTO
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC
TASK FORCE BRIEFING
SOON
0:18
ALTHOUGH STIMULUS BILL GRANTS STUDENTS SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION OF LOAN PAYMENTS, BIDEN

(Fox News, 3/25/20)

2020 Election – Aftermath And Criticisms Of January 6th

Criticism Of January 6th Efforts And Protestors/ Certification Of 2020 Election Results

In The Aftermath Of The 2020 Election, Despite Initially Supporting Trump's Challenges, Rubio Shifted His Rhetoric And "Mostly Stopped Talking About The Election." "Rubio did both. When Trump first started to allege irregularities in the election and his legal team filed lawsuits aimed at overturning the results, Rubio huffily defended the then-president's right to raise such questions. After President Biden was declared the winner of the election, Rubio continued to defend Trump's assertions that something untoward had happened. By the evening of Nov. 7, when the race was called, Trump's team and his allies were already 0 for 9 in their legal challenges. A few days later, Rubio's approach to the issue shifted. The issue was less that there were perhaps "irregularities" to be uncovered but, instead, that concern over potential irregularities from Republican voters demanded redress. This was a clever rhetorical shift

eventually used by his colleague, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.), in opposing the counting of electoral votes from several states. But it's also a hedge, allowing Rubio to stand alongside Trump while pointing in a slightly different direction. Rubio, like Cruz, is smart enough to know that by mid-November, there was no real evidence of fraud and that Trump's path to a second term in office had dried up. By Nov. 23, he'd referred to Biden as president-elect. But he's a politician and Trump had (and has) the enormous power of the Republican base. So Rubio tried to find a middle path. Over time, Rubio mostly stopped talking about the election. Trump was still tweeting out nonsensical claims about fraud, claims no more derived from reality than Greene's assertions about spacecraft starting wildfires in California. Rubio's response was not, as his tweet about Greene might suggest, to forcefully confront Trump's claims and expose them as false. His response instead was silence." (*Washington Post*, 2/3/21)

On January 6th, 2021, During The U.S. Capitol Protests, Rubio Attacked The Patriotism Of Protestors And Described The Event As "Anti-American Anarchy." (Twitter, 1/6/21)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio · Follow
There is nothing patriotic about what is occurring on Capitol Hill. This is 3rd world style anti-American anarchy.
3:01 PM · Jan 6, 2021
30.1K
Reply
Share
Read 27.3K replies

(Twitter, 1/6/21)

VIDEO: On January 6, 2021, Rubio Condemns The U.S. Capitol Protests As "One Of The Saddest Days In Our Modern History, Probably In Our History" And Deems It "Inexcusable." "MARCO RUBIO (00:14): I think it's one of the saddest days in our modern history, probably in our history. I think they're high fiving in Beijing and the Chinese look at this and are very happy about it. It kind of bolsters their claim that we're falling apart and they're the country of the future. I think it's inexcusable completely a hundred percent excusable. I don't care what the motivations and obviously people are going to get arrested, we're going to learn more about who was there and what this was all about. And I think it'll be interesting to see sort of the mix of people that were there and so forth. I think it's been tragic, and I want to say something, I want to thank the Capitol police officers. We know a lot of these people personally, we walk by them every single day who had to go out there and do this, and we're really undermanned for and overwhelmed by this at one point in time. (01:01) And so none of it is an excuse. Now, I do think that one of the challenges we have is we have a serious crisis of confidence in this country. There is now literally no individual or institution in this country that can speak definitively about anything. And that's not an excuse for any of this, but it explains some of the things that create an environment that lead to this all across the board. And the media is shocked that they have zero

credibility. They're viewed largely as biased. Then you have the censoring of news stories before an election by social media companies. And then you have these questions that in normal times people would look at and be able to work through. But in that environment of lack of confidence really sparks up. And I think those things need to be answered because elections, democracy doesn't just depend on having elections and depends on people's confidence in those elections and their willingness to abide by those results. They're interrelated. I don't know why the Senate can't do Watergate style, Titanic style hearings. We could take testimony, subpoena records. It wouldn't change the outcome of this race, but it would give people the clarity, the answer. And by the way, the changes that we need to make. When I was in Florida in the legislature, I served on a task force after 2000 that made a bunch of changes to the mechanics of our elections, and I think we could do that for the country. TUCKER CARLSON (02:13): I wondered all day what Republicans in the Senate made of this. So people came to your place of work, and I'm not talking you personally. I am really despised by an awful lot of people. And every once in a while I think to myself, they have good reason to despise me. Maybe I can communicate differently. I mean, it should evoke some soul searching in the person who's despised a little bit. And I wonder if Republican senators are thinking to themselves tonight, I hate the vandalism, I hate the violence. I hate all this crap. On the other hand, a lot of my voters really hate me. Maybe I should change the way I behave. Do you think anyone's thinking that? MARCO RUBIO (02:47): Well, I certainly think there's two things that have to happen. First, we have to firmly say that this stuff's not acceptable. It just can't happen. I mean, I TUCKER CARLSON (02:54): Couldn't agree more. MARCO RUBIO (02:55): We look like the third world. I mean honestly, we look like the third. I mean, this is stuff that you see in another country. We've got 10 pot dictators out there lecturing us and mocking us in their Twitter feeds and online. So that stuff can't happen. The second thing I would make is at some point everyone's got to step back here and realize that this has been brewing and building for a while and it's all across the board. And there are real factors out there that are contributing not just to an erosion of confidence and trust in America, but some of the, you made a point and I caught the tail end of it, and it's absolutely right. There is no such thing as a country in which half of us are very happy and the other half is very unhappy. It can't work. None of us is going anywhere. So we're going to have to figure out a way to coexist. That's always been the challenge in America. A country that covers this vast continent such, so diverse. And that's what our system is about and that's what law and order is about, is allowing us to have those disputes without violence, but through passionate debate. TUCKER CARLSON (03:49): We are in it together whether we want to be or not, a lot of us don't want to be, but it's kind of not up to us. So I agree with that. Senator, great to see you. MARCO RUBIO (03:56): Thank you." (YouTube, 1/6/21)



(YouTube, 1/6/21)

- **NOTE:** *An archived press release from Rubio condemning the January 6th protests can be found here: https://web.archive.org/.*

- **VIDEO: In January 2021, Rubio Reiterates January 6th Was One Of The "Saddest Days" In American History And A "National Embarrassment" That Has Made America Seem Like A "Third-World" Country While Condemning The Conspiracy Theories That Led To The Event; Rubio Also Argued That January 6th Meant That The Election Results Should Be Certified.** (Twitter, 1/6/21)


Senator Marco Rubio @SenMarcoRubio · Jan 6, 2021
Senator Rubio's statement on the certification of the Electoral College
1:40 / 3:07
304
191
390

(Twitter, 1/6/21)

VIDEO: In January 2021, Rubio Criticizes Stop The Steal Efforts For Convincing People That The Election Could Be Overturned And Condemns January 6th Protestors As A "National Embarrassment" Noting "People Were Led To Believe That These Challenges Would Prevail, And When It Didn't Happen, A Small Group Of People But Nonetheless A Significant Group Of People Created A Tremendous Amount Of Damage. Some Are Adherents Of Conspiracy Theories. Others Got Caught Up In The Moment And The Result Was A National Embarrassment. The Chinese Are Laughing At Us Tonight. Laughing." (Fox News, 1/7/21)



(Fox News, 1/7/21)

- **Rubio: "Some Of Them Unfortunately Were Adherence To A Conspiracy Theory And Others Got Caught Up In The Moment. The Result Was A National Embarrassment."** "Sen. Marco Rubio is claiming some of the Trump supporters who barged into the Capitol building "got caught up in the moment." Rubio, whose staff told CBS4 News wasn't available for an interview, spoke about the assault on the Capitol on Fox News Thursday night. He condemned the violence, but also spoke about other President Trump supporters. "Ninety-nine percent of the people that went yesterday to Washington, DC, to protest and have their voices heard did not barge into the Capitol. But 1% of thousands of people is a lot of people," the senator said. "Some of them unfortunately were adherence to a conspiracy theory and others got caught up in the moment. The result was a national embarrassment." Wednesday night, the senator did not object to election results from certain states. "The senators who filed it said we know we are not going to win but we are making this point. People were led to believe that these challenges would prevail," Rubio said. The riot was fueled by conspiracy theories and false claims about the election. Even though Rubio didn't formally object, he believes there are still problems. "The practice of states going to court to friendly judges, changing the laws so they can get an advantage for Democrats and circumventing the legislature. All that needs to be addressed," he said. In another interview, Rubio compared the siege to that of unstable countries. "This is stuff you see in another country. We got tin pot dictators out there lecturing us and mocking us in their Twitter feeds and online. So that stuff can't happen," said Rubio. In a video message on Twitter, Rubio also called Wednesday's siege "one of the saddest days in our history," and a "national embarrassment.'" (CBS News, 1/7/21)

In January 2021, Rubio Voted To Certify The 2020 Election Results For Arizona And Pennsylvania. "The Senate overwhelmingly turned aside challenges to President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the presidential election, guaranteeing the result will stand. The objection to the results in Arizona -- spearheaded by Rep. Paul Gosar and Sen. Ted Cruz -- was rejected 93-6 on Wednesday night. Among those voting against the challenge were Republican Florida Sens.

Marco Rubio and Rick Scott. The Republicans -- both allies of outgoing President Donald Trump, split, however, on a later vote over a legal challenge to Pennsylvania's election. After lawmakers reconvened following a siege on the US Capitol that stalled the proceedings, Scott was among the seven senators who voted to reject Pennsylvania's electors. Rubio, however, voted not to sustain any objections to states' electors. The legal challenge to Pennsylvania's election, ultimately rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court, hinged in part on a Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling in favor of expanding allowable vote-by-mail ballots. Scott contends the move was "in defiance of (Pennsylvania) state law." "We simply cannot tolerate partisan political attempts to change the rules and tip the scales in our elections," Scott wrote in a statement Wednesday. Rubio and Scott were among a myriad of Florida Republicans who rushed to condemn Wednesday's violence in the halls of Congress. During his floor remarks, Rubio said the display made a mockery of U.S. politics and delighted of foreign adversaries. "China's laughing. They're loving this tonight. In Beijing, they're high-fiving because they point to this and say, 'This is proof that the future belongs to China. America's in decline.' Vladimir Putin? There's nothing that Vladimir Putin could come up with better than what happened here," Rubio said. "Makes us look like we're in total chaos and collapse.'" (News 4 Jax, 1/6/21)

- **Rubio Has Described Voting Against Certification Of The 2020 Election Results "A Terrible Idea."** "Many Republicans in Florida haven't forgotten "the debate stage and the tête-à-tête between the two of them," said Tom Gaitens, who represents the Tampa area on the state party's central committee. Some Trump supporters have occasionally suggested finding a MAGA-aligned candidate to get behind, Gaitens said, but Rubio has managed to beat back any mass uprising. "Once the Trump train was on the tracks, I think Marco got on board," Gaitens said. The rumors, though, hit a crescendo after January 6, when Rubio was not among the eight Republican senators who voted against certifying the election results. Rubio called it "a terrible idea." His Florida counterpart, US Sen. Rick Scott, voted against certification of Pennsylvania's electors. When Ivanka Trump and husband Jared Kushner signed a lease on a luxury condo in Miami, speculation swirled that the former President's daughter could mount a challenge to Rubio. But Ivanka Trump shut down those rumors with a tweet. The whispering ended altogether when Trump announced last April his "complete and total endorsement" of Rubio. That same day, Trump held a luncheon fundraiser for Rubio at Mar-A-Lago." (CNN, 2/17/22)

Rubio Voted Nay, On The Objection To The Counting Of The Electoral Vote From The State Of Arizona. (Objection To AZ Election Results, Objection Not Sustained (6-93), U.S. Senate, 1/6/21, Rubio Voted Nay)

Rubio Voted Nay, On The Objection To The Presidential Electoral Vote Certificate From The Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania. (Objection To PA Election Results, Objection Not Sustained (7-92), U.S. Senate, 1/6/21, Rubio Voted Nay)

VIDEO: In January 2021, On The Senate Floor, Rubio Condemns Senators Who Still Are Seeking To Block Certification Of The 2020 Election Results As A "Terrible Idea." (Twitter, 1/6/21)



(Twitter, 1/6/21)

VIDEO: Later In January 2021, Rubio Continued To Condemn The January 6th Protests As "Unpatriotic," "Disgusting" And Ran "County To Everything We Stand For." (Twitter, 1/20/21)



(Twitter, 1/20/21)

Rubio Has Continued To Condemn January 6th Protestors And Support Their Prosecution; He Has Not Offered His Support For Trump's Call To Pardon Them. "Rubio has been sharply critical of the Democratic-led investigation into the Capitol Hill insurrection, and when asked if he believes Trump was responsible for the Capitol attack, he instead pinned the blame on those who broke into the building. "I think the people responsible for January 6 are ultimately the people that entered this building and broke the law," Rubio said in an interview. Rubio wouldn't say whether he agreed with Trump's call to pardon the rioters. "We have too many real problems for me to focus on hypothetical ones," he said. And he also contended that the Capitol attack would not be a decisive issue in his race. "What happened January 6 was horrible and it was a terrible day, it should never happen again. And people are being prosecuted for it," Rubio said. "But what does that have to do with the fact that people are paying exorbitant prices for everything, they can't find things, can't find workers?" The Florida Republican also turned the screws on his opponent, even as he conceded there is "no doubt" she would raise more money than him in the highly expensive state. "She's a Pelosi puppet, votes with Pelosi 100% of the time, that's why she wants her in the Senate," Rubio said of Demings, referring to Speaker Nancy Pelosi. "She's done nothing in her time in Congress." Approached in the Capitol, Demings declined to be interviewed on the race and later declined to be interviewed on the phone." (CNN, 2/17/22)

Criticism Of Trump's Claims On Vice Presidential Power

In 2022, Rubio "Rejected A Claim By Former President Donald Trump That Former Vice President Mike Pence Had The Power To Overturn The Results Of The 2020 Presidential Election." "Senator Marco Rubio, a Florida Republican, rejected a claim by former President Donald Trump that former Vice President Mike Pence had the power to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election. Pence made the rebuke during a speech to a Federalist Society event on Friday. In the aftermath of Trump's loss, the former president and other Republicans pushed claims—without evidence—that widespread fraud was the only reason why he lost. Some—including those who participated in the violent January 6 riot—also believed that Pence should have overturned the election. But during his speech, Pence said he "had no right" to do so. "The presidency belongs to the American people and the American people alone," he said. "And frankly, there is no idea more un-American than the notion that any one person could choose the American president. Under the Constitution, I had no right to change the outcome of our election." His remarks later drew the ire of Trump, while also receiving praise from some Republicans." (*Newsweek*, 2/6/22)

- **"Rubio, During A Sunday Morning Appearance On CBS News' Face The Nation, Backed Pence In The Ongoing Feud. He Noted That If The Situation Was Reversed, He Would Not Want A Democratic Vice President To Overturn Election Results."** "Rubio, during a Sunday morning appearance on CBS News' Face the Nation, backed Pence in the ongoing feud. He noted that if the situation was reversed, he would not want a Democratic vice president to overturn election results. "Well, if President Trump runs for reelection, I believe he would defeat Joe Biden. I don't want Kamala Harris to have the power as vice president to overturn that election. That's the same thing that I concluded back in January of 2021," he said. The senator, who ultimately voted to certify

Biden's win, added that he considered this line of thinking when voting on whether or not to certify the election results in key swing states. "You know, when that issue was raised, I looked at it, had analyzed it and came to the same conclusion that vice presidents can't simply decide not to certify an election.'" (*Newsweek*, 2/6/22)

2016 Election – Criticisms Of Note (Representative)

Overall – Harsh, Vocal Criticisms Against Trump And Promotion Of Never Trump Movement

"Rubio Has Called Trump A "Con Man" Seeking To Perpetrate "The Biggest Scam In American Political History" On American Voters, And Attacked Him For His Failed Businesses, Allegedly Fraudulent Real-Estate Courses And His Lack Of Policy Proposals. On Sunday, He Also Slammed Trump As "Unelectable" Because He Avoided Repudiating The KKK. The Most Piercing Attacks, However, Have Aimed At Trump's Appearance And Temperament." "But overall, it was a continuation of Rubio's new strategy of aggressive offense against the GOP frontrunner, which he launched the day before the debate at a spirited rally in Texas and continued to escalate over the past week. Rubio has called Trump a "con man" seeking to perpetrate "the biggest scam in American political history" on American voters, and attacked him for his failed businesses, allegedly fraudulent real-estate courses and his lack of policy proposals. On Sunday, he also slammed Trump as "unelectable" because he avoided repudiating the KKK. The most piercing attacks, however, have aimed at Trump's appearance and temperament. Rubio's repeatedly mocked Trump's tan, telling voters Saturday "he should sue whoever did that to his face." And the day after the debate, Rubio told a crowd in Dallas that Trump was having a "meltdown" during the debate breaks and asked for a full-length mirror, perhaps to check if his "pants were wet." Some of those attacks seem to have hit their mark, and in recent days Trump has unleashed his own volley in response, suggesting Rubio puts his makeup on "with a trowel," that he's a "lightweight" and a "choker" and calling him "little Marco," prompting Rubio's response on Sunday. It's part of an effort by Rubio to position himself as the anti-Trump candidate in the GOP field, in hopes of consolidating the majority of Republican voters that national polling has shown oppose Trump as the GOP nominee. And the energetic crowds he saw as he campaigned across the South on Saturday and Sunday cheering at every Trump knock seemed to suggest Rubio was making some progress in that effort. Ken Hawley, a small businessman from Roanoke, Virginia who attended Rubio's rally Sunday, said while the attacks on Trump "probably should've been done sooner," he felt like it was resonating. "I hate it had to go that route [of attacking Trump], but I guess evidently he had to stand up for what's right, so I'm for it," he said. But it's also a gamble, as it risks undermining Rubio's claim as the positive, optimistic, and above all, most presidential candidate in the race." (NBC News, 2/29/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Promoted The Never Trump Movement During The 2016 GOP Primary. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Feb 27, 2016
Donald Trump will never be the nominee of the party of Lincoln and Reagan. #NeverTrump
2K
4.3K
7.3K
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Feb 27, 2016
It's time to take the mask off of Donald Trump. #NeverTrump
youtube.com
Knockout | Marco Rubio for President
At the 10th GOP Debate, Marco exposed Donald Trump for the con artist he is. Help us stop Donald ...
1K
1.3K
2.5K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)



(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

Rejection Of Being Trump's Vice President (Flip-Flop)

VIDEO: In March 2016, Rubio Adamantly Refused Being Trump's Vice President And Noted He Would "Absolutely" Not Accept Such An Opportunity Even If Offered. (NBC News, 3/9/16)



(NBC News, 3/9/16)

NOTE: In March 2024, Rubio Claimed He Would Be Honored To Serve As Vice President. "Marco Rubio used to call him a "con artist." But now, the Florida senator says he'd be happy to be Donald Trump's running mate. "I think anybody who would be offered that should be honored," Rubio said Thursday, amid reports that he's among the leading contenders in Trump's veepstakes. He hasn't "spoken to anybody in the Trump world about it," he told NBC News, but reiterated, "Anybody who would be offered the chance to serve their country as vice president should consider that an honor." Of course, the gig in question is less about serving the public as it is about serving Trump himself, as Mike Pence learned the hard way. Though obsequious through Trump's first campaign and term, Pence's refusal to help his boss overturn the 2020 election results was a "career killer," as the former president reportedly warned him on January 6, 2021. So it seems the chief qualification for a 2024 running mate would be a willingness to do what Pence didn't that day. Who'd want such a job? Plenty of Republicans, it turns out. "The list is long," a Trump adviser told NBC News and is said to include Tim Scott, Elise Stefanik, J.D. Vance, Kristi Noem, and Tulsi Gabbard—the Democrat turned right-wing darling who is also believed to be under consideration as a possible running mate by third-party candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (Yes, RFK Jr.'s name has even been floated as a potential contender for Trump: "He's very Trumpian," former Bob Dole campaign manager Scott Reed told the New York Times this week.)" (Vanity Fair, 3/22/24)

Allegations That Trump Destroys America And Promotes Violence

VIDEO: In A March 2016 Press Conference, Rubio Condemns Trump's Violent Rhetoric For Feeding Into A Political Culture That Will Result In America Being "Ripped Apart At The Seams." "RUBIO (00:09): I think we also have to look at the rhetoric coming from the front runner in the presidential campaign. This is a man who in rallies has told the supporters to basically beat up the people who are in the crowd and he'll pay their legal fees. Someone who encourag encouraged people in the audience to rough up anyone who stands up and says

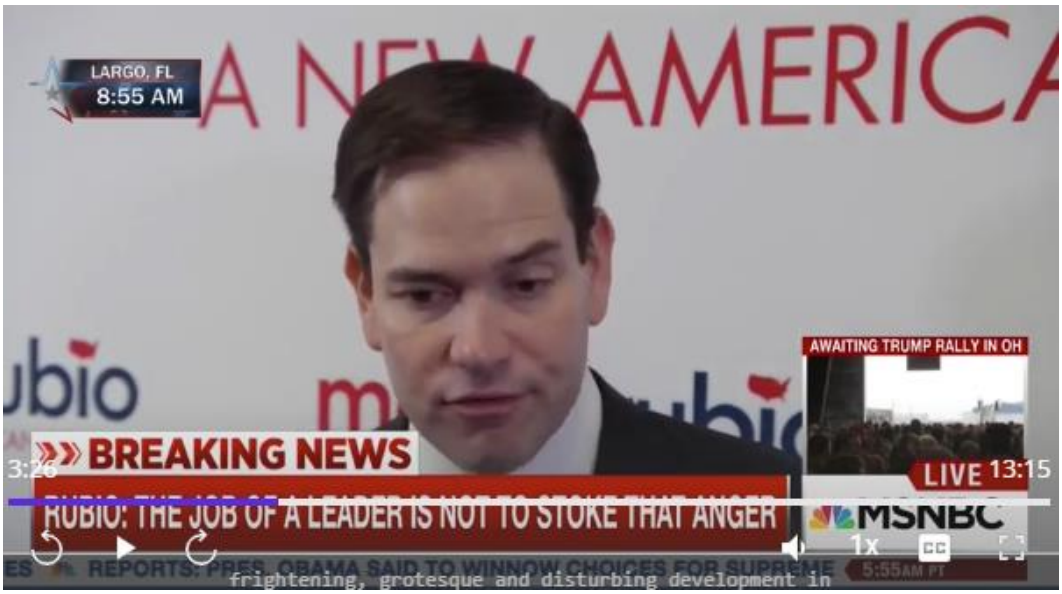
something he doesn't like. And I think the media has bear some responsibility. For too long those comments were ignored. Some people thought they're cute and he's got an extraordinary amount of coverage for all the stuff he says. That's outrageous. Every time Donald Trump offends someone says something ridiculous, says something offensive, it's wall to wall coverage and it's only elevated him even more. And so I think we all look at this and say, everyone bears responsibility for what's happening, but the result is this is what a culture and a society looks like when everybody says whatever the heck they want. (00:54) When everyone just goes around saying, I'm just going to speak my mind if I'm angry, it gives me the right to say or do anything I want. Well, there are other people that are angry too, and if they speak out and say whatever they want, the result is it all breaks down. It's called chaos, it's called anarchy, and that's what we're careening towards in our political process. The great thing about our republic is that we settle our differences in this country at the ballot box, not with guns or bayonets or violence. And you wonder whether we're headed in a different direction today where we're no longer able or capable of having differences of opinion. But in fact, now protests become a license to take violence to take on your opponents physically. I think forget about the election for a moment. There's a broader issue in our political culture in this country, and this is what happens when a leading presidential candidate goes around feeding into a narrative of anger and bitterness and frustration. And I think we all need to take a step back and ask ourselves, are we contributing to this because of this continues? I don't think this country will continue to be ripped apart at the seams and we will be incapable of solving any of the major issues that we have." (YouTube, 3/12/16)



(YouTube, 3/12/16)

VIDEO: In A March 2016 Press Conference, Rubio Claimed Trump's Movement And Rhetoric Was A "Frightening, Grotesque And Disturbing Development In American Politics." "REPORTER (02:00): Senator, what do you think this means for the future of the

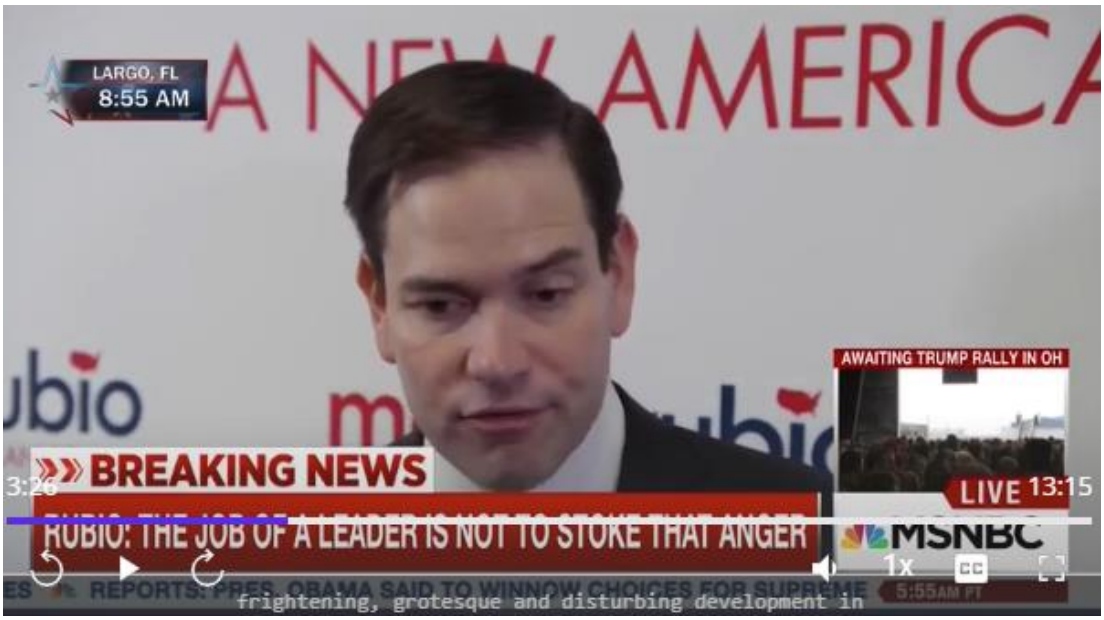
Republican party? RUBIO (02:05): I think the question is what does it means for the future of America? It's not just the Republican party. Look, Barack Obama has used Avis divisive language as well. I will admit he hasn't called on people in the crowd to beat people up, but he has divided Americans up among class warfare and things of this nature. I don't say he bears any responsibility for last night. There's real frustration in America. There are people in this country who are angry because they're working really hard and their jobs are gone. There are people in this country that are angry because they feel disenfranchised from the American dream, but the job of a leader is not to stoke that anger. The job of a leader is to address the causes of that anger and try to solve it, not try to stoke that anger so that they vote for you. (02:45) And this in many ways, not just Chicago. Put that aside for a moment. The broader anger that now exists in the American political discourse is a direct result of the fact that words have consequences. That when you run for president of the United States or if are president of the United States, whichever one is endeavoring to be, you can't just take on the attitude that I'm going to say whatever I want. You can't say whatever you want. It has real life consequences for people in this country and all over the world, and we're starting to see or bear out. You saw those images last night of people getting in their face, often divided up among racial lines. In many cases, the police officers bleeding from the head reminiscent of images from the sixties. I mean, we're going backwards here. This is a frightening, grotesque and disturbing development in American politics." (YouTube, 3/12/16)


LARGO, FL
8:55 AM
AWAITING TRUMP RALLY IN OH
LIVE 13:15
BREAKING NEWS
RUBIO: THE JOB OF A LEADER IS NOT TO STOKE THAT ANGER
MSNBC
frightening, grotesque and disturbing development in

(YouTube, 3/12/16)

VIDEO: In March 2016, Rubio Blames Trump For Political Violence And Encouraging It With His Lack Of Leadership. "REPORTER (03:31): Should Donald Trump's message be to his supporters, especially these more violent ones, should he tell them to stop RUBIO (03:37): A Donald Trump supporter sucker punched the man the other day in an event Donald Trump has yet to condemn him. After the man was released from jail, he said, next time I'll kill him. He still has not condemned it. And so it tells you that in many ways he doesn't want to say anything to his supporters because he doesn't want to turn them off because he understands that the reason

why they're voting for him is because he has tapped into this anger. The problem is leadership has never been about taking people's anger and using it to get 'em to vote for you. If it is, it's a dangerous style. Leadership. Leadership is about acknowledging people's anger, but as a leader trying to address why it is their anger instead of manipulating their anger so that they become your voter, your donor and your supporter. So I think Donald Trump needs to ask, when is he going to start condemning this stuff? Because instead, all he's saying is these are really bad dudes. Almost as of justifying that since he, from 400 yards away or 400 feet away concludes that these people look dangerous to him. He understands that the crowd likes to rough them up. (04:37) That sort of thing bleeds out into the broader political debate. And I want to be clear, okay, the protesters in Chicago were not blameless. These people, many of them were clearly just there to be agitators. They were there just to create a ruckus. Okay? I know the type people just went there and said, Hey, let's go out. We can form a scene. Others were there part of interest groups. Chicago is a city that is teaming with paid protestors, and you don't have a right to say, I don't like what someone's doing, so I'm going to go blow up their event. You see this on college campuses, the left bears responsibility as well. But I am telling you that this boiling point that we have now reached has been fed largely by the fact that we have a front runner in my party who has fed into language that basically justifies physically assaulting people who disagree with you." (YouTube, 3/12/16)



(YouTube, 3/12/16)

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Broadly Criticizes Trumpism As An Empty Reaction To Anger And Frustration In America And Contends Trump Does Not Actually Represent Real Leadership. "RUBIO (10:48): Well, I think President Obama has been politically divisive. There's no doubt. I mean, he has taken an attitude that if you don't agree with him on public policy, you're bad. I've seen him do that. And I think that's divisive, divisive, and perhaps a contributor to all this. But this is different. I mean, this is a different level that we're discussing now. This is the intentional injection of the use of people's anger. Basically, this is a political candidate in Donald Trump who has identified that there are some really angry people in

America. They feel as though they've been mistreated by the culture, by society, by our politics, by our economy. And he knows this. And they have, in many instances, they really have. Every major institution in our society has failed us. Higher ed education has failed us organized. Religion has failed us. The media has failing us. (11:38) Politicians and political parties are failing us. Government's failing us. Every major institution we once relied on are failing us over the last 20 years. And people are frustrated. You're working as hard as you ever have and you can't make ends meet. And along comes a presidential candidate and says, you, you know why your life is hard? Because fill in the blank. Somebody, someone, some country, they're the reasons for it. Give me power so I can go after them. That's what he's feeding into. That is not leadership, that is not productive leadership, that is not good leadership, and it is not keeping with our American tradition. That is a style of leadership that says, I know you're angry and I'm going to take advantage of it so that you vote for me. But what it overlooks is the consequences of it. And his style of doing it is basically along the lines of, I'm going to say whatever I want, even if it's not politically correct. (12:25) Well, politically correct, politically correct is one thing. It shouldn't keep you from saying truth. But another thing is to be rude and obnoxious and offensive, deliberately offensive for purposes of driving media narrative. And I want to be frank, and I'm not talking about any of you in particular. I know you don't make these decisions, but I hope the US media begins to examine the role they've played in all this. Because I can tell you that for months I've been giving speeches on public policy and nobody paid a lot of attention. And the minute that I mentioned anything personal about Donald Trump, every network cut in live to my speech is hoping I would say more of it. So then they could go on the air and say, oh, this is so sad. Subtitle. We're going to keep giving it coverage because good for our ratings. So I think we need, the media needs to begin to examine the role it's played in creating this atmosphere, because I know it's good for ratings, but it's really detrimental to our political culture and to our country at large." (YouTube, 3/12/16)



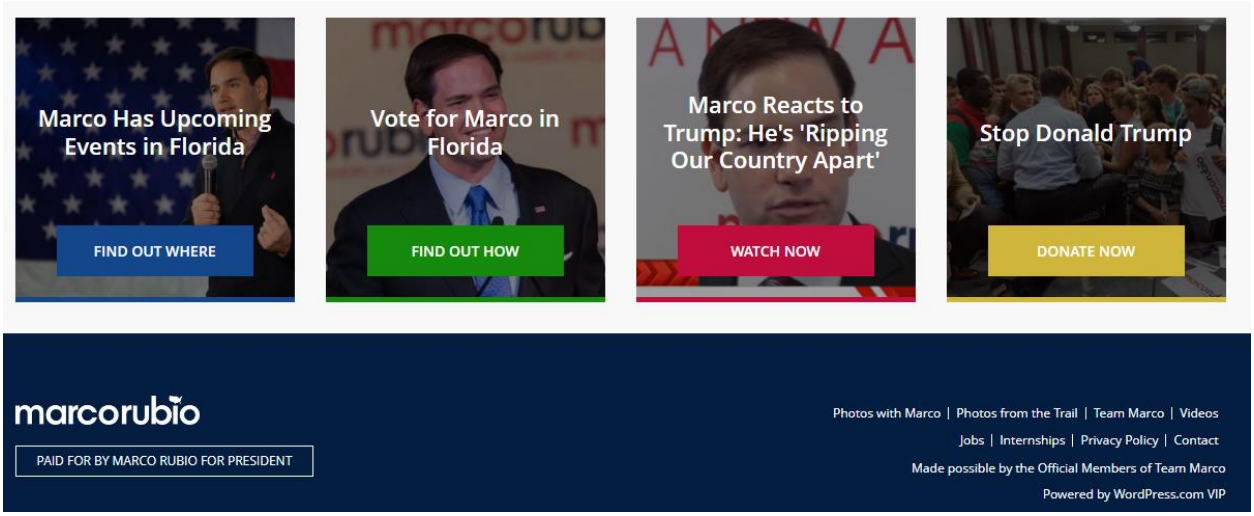
(YouTube, 3/12/16)

VIDEO: In March 2016, Rubio Criticizes Trump's Rhetoric Promoting Violence As "Disastrous" And Accused Him Of Promoting Hate, Anger, And Frustration. (YouTube, 3/13/16)



(YouTube, 3/13/16)

On His 2016 Campaign Site, Rubio Promoted His Claims That Trump Was "Ripping Our Country Apart" And Urged His Supporters To "Stop Donald Trump." (Marco Rubio, Archived 3/22/16)


Marco Has Upcoming Events in Florida
FIND OUT WHERE
Vote for Marco in Florida
FIND OUT HOW
Marco Reacts to Trump: He's 'Ripping Our Country Apart'
WATCH NOW
Stop Donald Trump
DONATE NOW
marcorubio
PAID FOR BY MARCO RUBIO FOR PRESIDENT
Photos with Marco | Photos from the Trail | Team Marco | Videos
Jobs | Internships | Privacy Policy | Contact
Made possible by the Official Members of Team Marco
Powered by WordPress.com VIP

(Marco Rubio, Archived 3/22/16)

Allegations That Trump Destroys The Republican Party And Conservative Movement

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Contended Trump Was Destroying The Republican Party And The Conservative Movement. "REPORTER (07:01): Senator, you point to some of the racial divisions that we're seeing at these protests and certainly Donald Trump. You've criticized many times comments, for example, that he's made refusing to condemn the KKK or on immigrants.

What do you think are the implications of a Trump presidency for race relations in America? RUBIO (07:16): I don't know other than to tell you that beyond that is I think I've already told you what I think his candidacy is going to mean, and that is it will shred, and I believe Donald Trump is our nominee is going to shatter and fracture the Republican party and the conservative movement. I think it's already having that function. I think a Donald Trump presidency would be more along those lines apparently. But right now I'm focused on what does this mean to the political discourse and more importantly to the role that Republican party and the conservative movement in this discourse." (YouTube, 3/12/16)



(YouTube, 3/12/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Offered Several Other Criticisms Regarding Trump's Alleged Harms For The Conservative Movement. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 13, 2016
I do not want the conservative movement to be defined by what I'm seeing out of Donald Trump's campaign.
youtube.com
Marco Talks Real Leadership On ABC's This Week | Ma
After violent protests at Donald Trump rallies, Marco talks to George Stephanopoulos about how a real ...
466
680
1.3K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

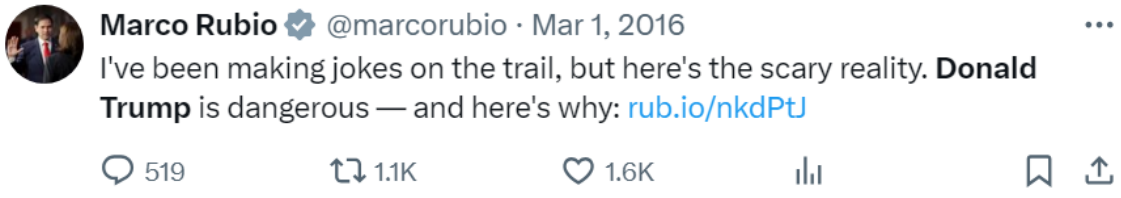

Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 1, 2016
.@ScottRigell says if Trump is the nominee, "the harm done to our party would be nothing short of catastrophic." rub.io/zqCnmN
371
393
862

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

Allegations That Trump Is Dangerous For The World

In 2016, Rubio Contended That Trump Was Dangerous And Could Not Be Trusted With America's Nuclear Codes – A Position He Continued To Hold Even After Dropping Out Of The 2016 GOP Primary. "About a month ago, Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) was reminded that during his failed presidential campaign, he told voters that Donald Trump shouldn't be given access to nuclear codes because he lacked the necessary judgment and temperament. "I stand by the things that I said," Rubio replied, shortly before saying he'll support Trump's candidacy anyway. Yesterday, the Weekly Standard's John McCormack talked to the Florida senator about the same issue, and received a very similar response. 'One month after announcing his support for Donald Trump, Marco Rubio still believes that the presumptive GOP nominee is unfit to be commander-in-chief. "I stand by everything I said during the campaign," the Florida senator told THE WEEKLY STANDARD on Thursday when asked if he still believes Trump cannot be trusted with access to the country's nuclear weapons codes. During the campaign, Rubio said that Trump was "dangerous" and that we must not hand "the nuclear codes of the United States to an erratic individual.'' Rubio doesn't seem to understand why this posture is untenable. Perhaps I can help. Stepping back, one of the challenges for Republicans with the controversy surrounding Judge Gonzalo Curiel is that the entire story is a trap of sorts from which there is no easy escape. If GOP officials acknowledge Trump's racism, they're effectively saying they want a racist in the White House. If they deny Trump's racism, they look like cowards. It's why so many GOP officials have tried to get creative while walking a fine line, with varying degrees of success. Rubio's challenge, meanwhile, is every bit as dramatic, if not more so." (MSNBC, 6/10/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Offered Several Other Criticisms Regarding Trump's Alleged Danger For The World. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 1, 2016
I've been making jokes on the trail, but here's the scary reality. Donald Trump is dangerous — and here's why: rub.io/nkdPtJ
519
1.1K
1.6K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

Criticisms Of Trump's Personal Characteristics (Ad Hominem Attacks)

During The 2016 Campaign, Rubio Made "Fun Of Trump's Tan, His Hair And Ultimately The Size Of His Hands — A Veiled Jab At Trump's Manhood." "Rubio's sudden shift to aggressively attacking Trump one week before the Super Tuesday primary contests saw the candidate mock Trump on the debate stage and during nearly every one of his stump speeches following. The attacks took a personal turn, with Rubio making fun of Trump's tan, his hair and ultimately the size of his hands — a veiled jab at Trump's manhood — at a rally shortly before voters went to the polls that week. The strategy won him wall-to-wall media coverage but did little to cement Rubio as the anointed alternative to Trump. Indeed, it appears to have hurt him, as he struggled to overcome Ted Cruz during the Super Tuesday contests and his support has since cratered, resulting in disappointing finishes in primaries across the nation over the past week. Some Republicans have criticized Rubio for "damaging the image of the Republican Party," as major Republican donor Fred Malek put it on MSNBC this week. Rubio's comments Wednesday were an implicit acknowledgment that the strategy didn't work, and he has since shifted away from personal attacks on Trump in favor of more policy-focused fare. But he insisted that it was "appropriate" to point out that Trump is "portraying himself as something he's not," a central focus of his argument against the GOP frontrunner." (NBC News, 3/9/16)

- **"Marco Rubio Again Unleashed An Array Of Sharp Attacks On Republican Frontrunner Donald Trump, Jabbing At His "Small Hands" And "Spray Tan."'"** "Marco Rubio again unleashed an array of sharp attacks on Republican frontrunner Donald Trump, jabbing at his "small hands" and "spray tan." In response to the property mogul calling him "little Rubio," Rubio conceded that Trump was taller than him. However, the Florida senator suggested Trump had small hands for his height. "And you know what they say about guys with small hands," Rubio said with a smile, prompting stunned laughter from the crowd. After a brief pause he added: "You can't trust 'em!" The crowd responded with applause. Rubio also targeted Trump's notorious tan, saying he "doesn't sweat because his pores are clogged from the spray tan. "Donald Trump isn't gonna make America great, he's gonna make America orange," he said. The remarks came at an energetic rally at a university in Salem, Virginia, where the young crowd screamed and cheered at every attack line Rubio landed. It was a notable shift in tone from earlier in the day, when Rubio largely laid off the personal attacks on Trump in favor of a focus on his failed business deals and lack of policy proposals." (NBC News, 2/29/16)

Rubio Suggested Trump Once Wet His Pants After Debating Him. "It was not the only time Rubio seized on Trump's reliance on foreign labor for some of his properties. As Rubio recalled his parents' immigrant experience, he noted his "mother was a maid, the kind of people Donald Trump hires from other countries." Rubio also saved some ridicule for Trump's performance at the debate. Rubio suggested Trump had a "meltdown" during a commercial break, scrambling to get rid of a "sweat mustache" he developed and demanding a full-length mirror for an unknown reason. "Maybe to make sure his pants weren't wet — I don't know," Rubio said. Rubio's Trump criticism, which garnered rowdy reaction here at Klyde Warren Park in downtown Dallas, took a turn for the serious more than once. He blamed the media for propping up Trump in an effort to push him into the general election, where the billionaire's critics believe he will lose against the

Democrats' pick. "We cannot nominate someone's who's going to be shredded to pieces, " Rubio said." (*Texas Tribune*, 2/26/16)

NOTE: In March 2016, "Marco Rubio Said Wednesday He's "Not Entirely Proud" Of His Personal Attacks On Donald Trump And Wouldn't Have Launched Them If He Could Do Things Over Again." "Marco Rubio said Wednesday he's "not entirely proud" of his personal attacks on Donald Trump and wouldn't have launched them if he could do things over again. "In terms of things that have to do with personal stuff, yeah, at the end of the day it's not something I'm entirely proud of. My kids were embarrassed by it, and if I had to do it again I wouldn't," he said in a town hall airing Wednesday at 8 p.m. ET on MSNBC." (NBC News, 3/9/16)

Criticisms Of Trump's Character And Business Record (Additional)

In 2016, Rubio Did Not Disavow Trump After His Access Hollywood Comments But Noted "I Ran Against Donald Trump. And While I Respect That Voters Chose Him As The GOP Nominee, I Have Never Hesitated To Oppose His Policies I Disagree With. And I Have Consistently Rejected His Offensive Rhetoric And Behavior. I Disagree With Him On Many Things…" "GOP Sen. Marco Rubio is standing by Donald Trump. Breaking several days of silence, the Rubio campaign issued a statement Tuesday responding to reporters who had been asking whether the release Friday of a 2005 Access Hollywood tape of Trump making lurid and suggestive comments about women would prompt him to stop supporting the Republican presidential nominee. In a word, no. Here's the statement: "I ran against Donald Trump. And while I respect that voters chose him as the GOP nominee, I have never hesitated to oppose his policies I disagree with. And I have consistently rejected his offensive rhetoric and behavior. I disagree with him on many things, but I disagree with his opponent on virtually everything. "I wish we had better choices for President. But I do not want Hillary Clinton to be our next President. And therefore my position has not changed.' It's essentially what Rubio has been saying for months, ever since Trump wrapped up the nomination earlier this year. And while the Florida senator who is seeking re-election on the same ballot with Trump has said he has no plans to campaign with the billionaire, Rubio also hasn't gone out of his way to disparage him." (USA Today, 10/11/16)

In 2016, Rubio Alleged Trump Was A "Con Artist" Who "Has Spent His Entire Career Sticking It To The Little Guy." "Marco Rubio on Friday unleashed a full-frontal assault against Donald Trump, blasting him as a "con artist" who is hijacking the conservative movement and mercilessly mocking Trump's alpha-male status. At a rally here, the U.S. senator from Florida unveiled what amounted to his most comprehensive — and scathing — critique of Trump yet, declaring it "time to pull off his mask so that people can see what we are dealing with here." "He is a con artist," Rubio said. "He runs on this idea he is fighting for the little guy, but he has spent his entire career sticking it to the little guy — his entire career." Rubio's full-throated offensive came the morning after he and Ted Cruz teamed up against Trump at the 10th Republican debate in Houston. Rubio specifically pounced on Trump's hiring of foreign workers and his now-defunct Trump University, both examples Rubio cited here as he argued the billionaire is doing a "con job" on voters. "He's going to Americans that are struggling, that are hurting, and he's implying, 'I'm fighting for you because I'm a tough guy,'" Rubio said. "A tough guy? This guy inherited $200 million. He's never faced any struggle." Rubio added: "The other day, he told a

protester, 'I'm going to punch you in the face.' Donald Trump has never punched anyone in the face. Donald Trump was the first guy that begged for Secret Service protection." Appearing later Friday morning in nearby Fort Worth, Trump called Rubio's tirade a sign of desperation that shows the Florida senator is not "presidential material." Trump also took issue with a number of Rubio's claims, including that Trump inherited $200 million and that his vodka line went out of business. "I used to call Ted Cruz a liar, but now I'll also call Marco Rubio" a liar, Trump told reporters before the start of his own rally at the Fort Worth Convention Center. At one point in his rally, Rubio pulled out his phone and read from the stage a series of misspelled tweets Trump had sent earlier in the morning. The tweets, one of which called Rubio a "leightweight chocker," prompted the Florida senator to offer two theories for the spelling errors. "No. 1, that's how they spell those words at the Wharton School of Business," Rubio said, referring to Trump's oft-touted alma mater, "or No. 2, just like the Trump Tower, he relies on a foreign worker to do his own tweets.'" (*Texas Tribune*, 2/26/16)

- **"As He Wound Down His Trump Rampage, Rubio Made A Direct Appeal To Texans. "You All Have Friends That Are Thinking About Voting For Donald Trump," Rubio Said. "Friends Do Not Let Friends Vote For Con Artists.'"** (*Texas Tribune*, 2/26/16)

VIDEO: Rubio: "Donald J. Trump Is A Political Con Man ... He's Trying To Take Over The Party Of Reagan And The Conservative Movement – We Can't Let That Happen." (Facebook, 2/26/16)


Fox News
February 26, 2016
"Donald J. Trump is a political con man ... He's trying to take over the party of Reagan and the conservative movement – we can't let that happen."
Tonight on "Special Report with Bret Baier," Marco Rubio responded to Chris Christie's endorsement of Trump and last night's #GOPDebate. http://bit.ly/21oaZFH
RUBIO REACTS TO CHRISTIE ENDORSING DONALD TRUMP
SPECIAL REPORT
6.9K
7K comments 828 shares

(Facebook, 2/26/16)

VIDEO: Rubio, On Trump: "He's Not A Conservative. But More Importantly, He's A Con." (Facebook, 2/26/16)



(Facebook, 2/26/16)

VIDEO: Rubio: "If Donald J. Trump Is President, He's Not Going To Make America Great. He's Going To Make America Broke." (Facebook, 2/28/16)


Fox News
February 28, 2016
"If Donald J. Trump is president, he's not going to make America great. He's going to make America broke." – Marco Rubio
marcorubio.com
FOX NEWS SUNDAY
RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE
RUBIO'S PERSONAL FINANCES
13K
13.7K comments 3.4K shares

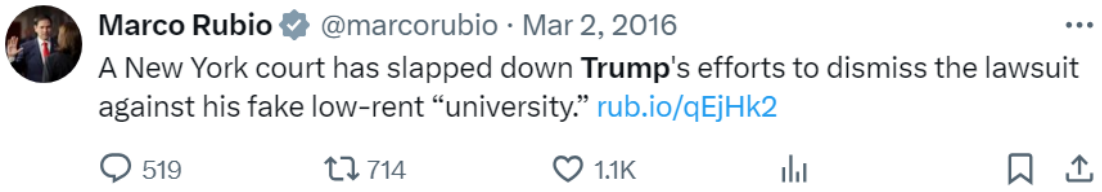
(Facebook, 2/28/16)

"Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Said Friday That Donald Trump Is The Most Vulgar Person To Ever Run For President Of The United States. "Donald Trump Has Been Perhaps The

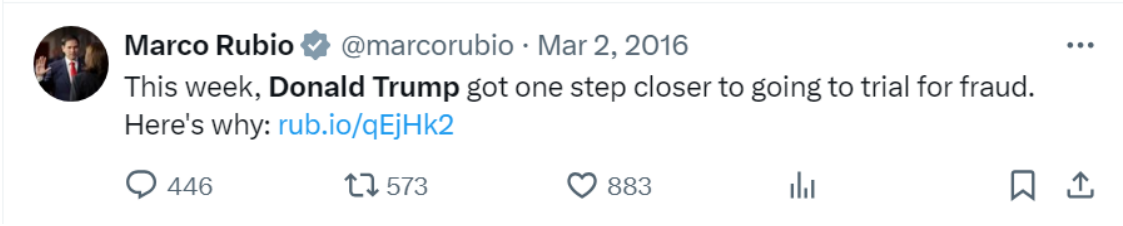
Most Vulgar – No I Don't Think Perhaps – The Most Vulgar Person To Ever Aspire To The Presidency In Terms Of How He's Carried Out His Candidacy," He Told CNN's Alisyn Camerota On "New Day.'" "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio said Friday that Donald Trump is the most vulgar person to ever run for President of the United States. "Donald Trump has been perhaps the most vulgar – no I don't think perhaps – the most vulgar person to ever aspire to the presidency in terms of how he's carried out his candidacy," he told CNN's Alisyn Camerota on "New Day." The Florida senator was responding to a question about a moment during Thursday night's Republican presidential debate hosted by Fox News when Trump assured American voters that despite what Rubio suggested on the campaign trail, there was "no problem" with the size of his hands – or anything else. "Look at those hands, are they small hands?" the front-runner for the GOP presidential nomination said, raising them for viewers to see. "And, he referred to my hands – 'if they're small, something else must be small.' I guarantee you there's no problem. I guarantee." Rubio said Trump's vulgarity has prevented candidates from discussing the policies affecting the American people. "The majority of the questions had something to do with he said or she said," he said. "I would love to have a policy debate. I think that's important. We're talking about the presidency of the United States here." Rubio in recent days on the campaign trail ramped up his teasing of the brash billionaire, including reviving a decades-old old insult, mocking Trump for having relatively slight hands." (CNN, 3/4/16)

In 2016, "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio And Texas Sen. Ted Cruz Released Income And Federal Tax Data Saturday As Part Of An Attempt To Pressure Donald Trump, The Republican Presidential Front-Runner, To Do The Same." "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz released income and federal tax data Saturday as part of an attempt to pressure Donald Trump, the Republican presidential front-runner, to do the same. Rubio released five years' worth of financial information, saying the rates his family paid were in line with tax rates paid by Americans of similar income levels. And Cruz and his wife disclosed four years' worth, bringing in more income than did the Rubio family. But both campaigns only released the top lines of the forms, not the complete documents, providing only a limited look at their finances. Democrats and some Republicans quickly pounced on Rubio and Cruz for the limited release. The moves from Cruz and Rubio come as Trump is under pressure to release his tax returns. 2012 GOP nominee Mitt Romney warned there could be a "bombshell" in Trump's documents. Trump has so far declined to release his tax information, saying he's being audited. "It is time to stop the excuses," Cruz said in a statement. "If Donald is embarrassed about his tax returns, it's up to the voters to assess the facts." When asked about why only summaries were released, Cruz offered to disclose more information if other candidates did. "If Marco wants to release the complete thing for the recent years, I'm happy to do so as well and I would certainly encourage Donald Trump to do it, but we just did it to match what the other candidates are doing," Cruz told reporters. Rubio promised to release additional tax information in the future, but wanted to get the summaries out for the sake of time. "We'll do the rest too," Rubio told reporters. "We just wanted to get it out there quickly so people could see the summaries.'" (CNN, 2/7/16)

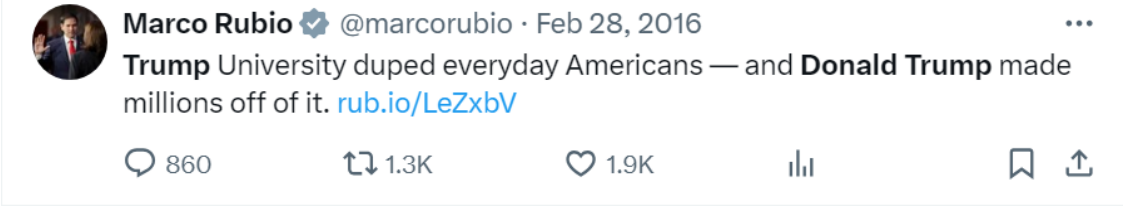
On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump For His Record On Trump University And Being A Fraud. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 2, 2016
A New York court has slapped down Trump's efforts to dismiss the lawsuit against his fake low-rent "university." rub.io/qEjHk2
519
714
1.1K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 2, 2016
This week, Donald Trump got one step closer to going to trial for fraud. Here's why: rub.io/qEjHk2
446
573
883

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Feb 28, 2016
Trump University duped everyday Americans — and Donald Trump made millions off of it. rub.io/LeZxbV
860
1.3K
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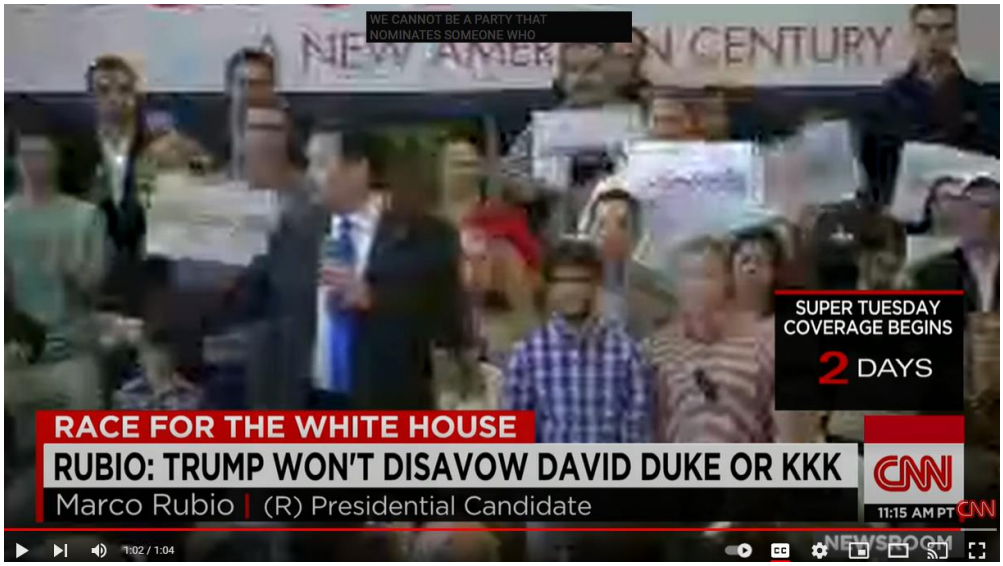
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

Criticisms Of Trump's Rhetoric On Race And Immigration

In 2015, Rubio Condemned Trump's Comments On Mexican Immigrants Noting "Trump's Comments Are Not Just Offensive And Inaccurate, But Also Divisive." "As controversy over his remarks about Mexican immigrants to the US continued to attract international condemnation and damage his commercial relationships, the White House hopeful Donald Trump drew heavy fire from Marco Rubio, a Hispanic member of the 14-strong GOP presidential field. On Friday, Rubio released a strongly worded statement which said: "Trump's comments are not just offensive and inaccurate, but also divisive." At the launch of his presidential campaign two weeks ago, Trump said: "[Mexico is] sending people that have lots of problems, and they are bringing those problems to us. They are bringing drugs, and bringing crime, and their rapists." The government of Mexico called the comments "prejudiced" and "absurd"; the Venezuelan president, Nicolás Maduro, said Trump was "mentally ill". Hispanic leaders in the US called on Republicans to condemn Trump's remarks. Many candidates have been cautious and relatively mild. The former Florida governor Jeb Bush, the frontrunner whose wife was born in Mexico and who speaks fluent Spanish, said Trump was "wrong" and added: "Maybe we'll have a chance to have an honest discussion about it onstage.' Trump, running second in some polls, is on course to appear onstage in the first Republican debate, which will be hosted in Cleveland by Fox on 6 August. Only the top 10 in the currently 14-strong GOP field will be allowed to participate. Rubio's statement continued: "Our next president needs to be someone who brings Americans together – not someone who continues to divide. Our broken

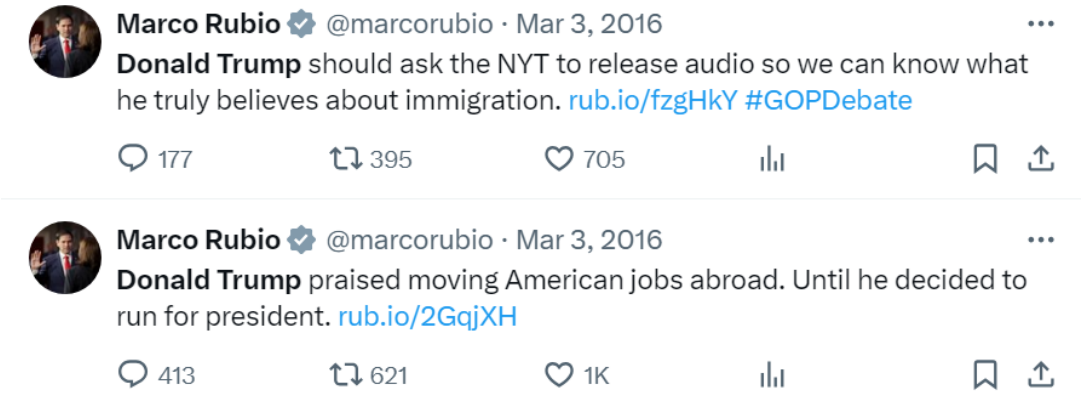
immigration system is something that needs to be solved, and comments like this move us further from – not closer to – a solution. We need leaders who offer serious solutions to secure our border and fix our broken immigration system." On Saturday, speaking on the Fox & Friends morning show, Trump attacked Rubio for being "very weak on immigration". He also said the former New York governor George Pataki, who has criticised his remarks, was "a sad figure" and "a terrible governor of New York" who had "zero numbers in the polls". Trump said he "respected" the Texas senator Ted Cruz, who has defended his remarks on immigration. On Friday, Trump lost the support of another US institution when the chairman of Nascar said the auto-racing series would not host its season-end awards at his Trump National Doral resort in Miami." (The Guardian, 7/4/15)

VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Condemned Trump For Failing To Firmly Disavow The KKK And Contended It Made Him Unelectable. (YouTube, 2/28/16)



(YouTube, 2/28/16)

On Social Media, Rubio Repeatedly Criticized Trump For Being A Hypocrite On Immigration. (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 3, 2016
Donald Trump should ask the NYT to release audio so we can know what he truly believes about immigration. rub.io/fzgHkY #GOPDebate
177
395
705
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 3, 2016
Donald Trump praised moving American jobs abroad. Until he decided to run for president. rub.io/2GqjXH
413
621
1K

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

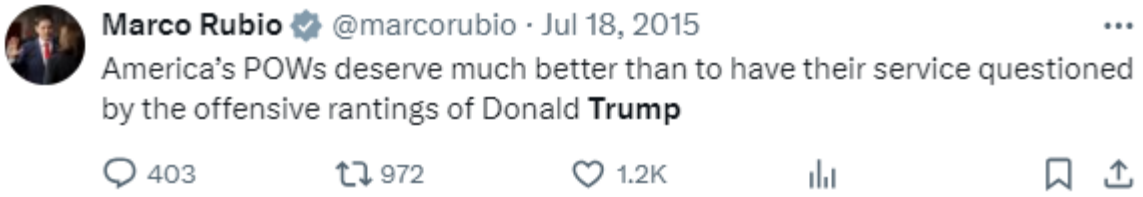
Criticisms Of Trump's Rhetoric On Terrorism And The Military

VIDEO: In 2015, Rubio Criticized Trump's Criticism Of Bush Over 9/11 And Claimed Trump "Doesn't Have A Fundamental Understanding Of What Caused 9/11." "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio says his opponent Donald Trump is wrong to suggest President George W. Bush bears responsibility for the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, arguing that the majority of the failures that led to the deadly attacks should be attributed to President Bill Clinton's administration instead. "It's just not true, it's wrong. What he said is just not true," Rubio told NewsMaxTV The Hard Line with Ed Berliner on Wednesday about Trump. "The truth is that President George W. Bush inherited all sorts of things from the Clinton administration, including intelligence agencies and others who weren't doing a very good job that were not sharing information across agencies. Including a government that under President Clinton had not taken seriously al-Qaeda and the threat that they posed," Rubio continued, citing the attack on the U.S.S. Cole, the first World Trade Center bombing, and other terrorist attacks. For the past week, Trump has discussed the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, specifically noting Bush was president during the attacks and had responsibility for them. Trump went as far saying the Bush administration was warned by the CIA director the attack was coming and did nothing. Rubio noted Bush had been in office for less than a year when the attacks happened. "As a result, President Bush was only in office nine months when this happened, but that plot to conduct 9/11 and the steps that it took to bring it about — those began well before he was even sworn into office," Rubio said. "It happened under the watch of President Clinton, in fact, the 9/11 Commission says that. If you look, all of their recommendations, many of them were about reversing mistakes that were made during the Clinton presidency." "He doesn't have a fundamental understanding of what caused 9/11," Rubio said of Trump." (Buzzfeed, 10/22/15)



(Buzzfeed, 10/22/15)

Rubio, In 2015: "America's POWs Deserve Much Better Than To Have Their Service Questioned By The Offensive Rantings Of Donald Trump." (Twitter, 7/18/15)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jul 18, 2015
America's POWs deserve much better than to have their service questioned by the offensive rantings of Donald Trump
403
972
1.2K

(Twitter, 7/18/15)

Criticisms Of Trump's Muslim Policies And Comments

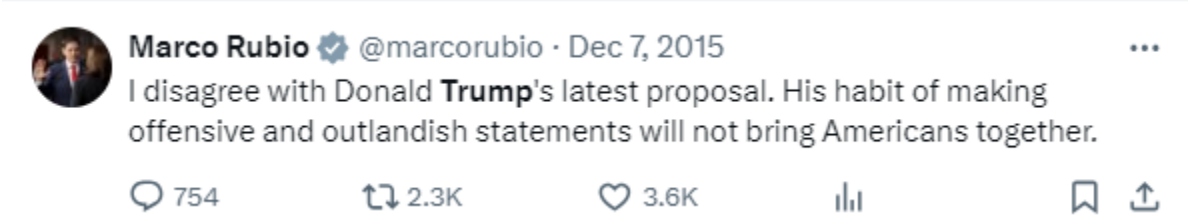
VIDEO: In 2016, Rubio Condemns Trump's Anti-Muslim Rhetoric And Claims The Consequences Of His Actions Would Be Felt In The Military. "RUBIO (08:09): Well behind stage, we basically are interacting for 15 seconds before we walk on the stage. So that's that. As far as the, I did, I mean, I was asked a question about his comments on Islam, and I said exactly what I said to you right now. And that is that Presidents say whatever they want, whatever they want, and I describe the consequences that it has. How are you going to be the commander in chief of the United States Armed forces when you have men and women of the Muslim faith who service in uniform who could be killed in action? How are you going to be commander in chief when you know that are men and women in uniform have people there working with all over the world who are Muslim, who have taken great sacrifices at our behalf? There is a doctor in Pakistan who was a Muslim, who was involved in aiding the United States according to open press and our efforts to capture Osama bin Laden. (08:58) He was a Muslim. What do you say to him? He hated America. He's in jail today in Pakistan. There are people that have died who are Muslims, who have helped the United States as interpreters. There are servicemen and women in the United States who will tell you that they were injured in combat and Muslim families took them into their home and sheltered them until help could arrive. What do you say to missionaries who are all over the world operating in Muslim countries where Muslim families are protecting them or helping them even though they're not converting, they're helping them because they like them as persons and individuals. And now the message coming out of America from a leading presidential candidate is, I know you hate us and implying maybe we hate you. There are consequences to these words. There really are presidents and presidential candidates cannot just say anything they want. And I did say that at the debate, but do" (YouTube, 3/12/16)



(YouTube, 3/12/16)

In December 2015, "Donald Trump Made A Drastic Call On Monday For "A Total And Complete Shutdown Of Muslims Entering The United States Until Our Country's Representatives Can Figure Out What Is Going On." "Donald Trump made a drastic call on Monday for "a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on." Trump's call comes one day after President Obama's address from the Oval Office in the aftermath of the San Bernardino, Calif., shootings that were carried out by an apparently self-radicalized married couple. The male shooter was an American citizen, born in the United States. His wife was born in Pakistan but was in the U.S. legally on a visa for fiancees. At a rally in Mount Pleasant, S.C., Monday evening, Trump read the statement to loud cheers from the crowd. He repeated claims that Muslims around the world believe violence against Americans is justified and that they believe American Muslims should be allowed to live under sharia law. Trump also addressed how people can be radicalized online, suggesting "maybe in certain areas closing that Internet up in some way." He also repeated calls for surveillance on mosques in the U.S. "Yes, we have to look at mosques, and we have to respect mosques," he said. "Because something is happening in there. Man, there's anger, and we have to know about it." His appearance was interrupted by protesters several times, including when he was explaining his latest proposal on keeping Muslims from entering the country. At that point, Trump referred to the person interrupting his rally by saying, "That's alright. He sounds like he's very exhausted." Trump, the wealthy real estate magnate who remains atop the GOP presidential field, has faced backlash for previous statements against Muslims and, before that, Hispanics. Following terrorist attacks in Paris, Trump endorsed the idea of a database to register Muslims in the U.S., saying he would "strongly consider" shutting down some mosques." (NPR, 12/7/15)

- **Rubio Criticized Trump's Muslim Ban Noting "I Disagree With Donald Trump's Latest Proposal. His Habit Of Making Offensive And Outlandish Statements Will Not Bring Americans Together."** (Twitter, 12/7/15)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Dec 7, 2015
I disagree with Donald Trump's latest proposal. His habit of making offensive and outlandish statements will not bring Americans together.
754
2.3K
3.6K

(Twitter, 12/7/15)

Criticisms Of Trump's Record On Workers

Rubio's 2016 Campaign Site Claimed "Donald Trump Puts American Workers Last"; The Site Promoted Opposition Research Attacking Trump's Record On Labor And His Companies' Various Worker Related Controversies. (Marco Rubio, Archived 3/22/16)



(Marco Rubio, Archived 3/22/16)

VIDEO: Rubio: "Trump Tower Was Built By Illegal Immigrants From Poland." (Facebook, 2/26/16)


Fox News
February 26, 2016
"Trump Tower was built by illegal immigrants from Poland." – Marco Rubio hit back at Donald J. Trump during a rally in Oklahoma City moments ago.
Rubio joins Bret Baier on 'Special Report' at 6p ET.
OKLAHOMA CITY
2:29 PM
marcorubio
Breaking
RUBIO: TRUMP TIES ARE MADE IN CHINA AND MEXICO
Jonathan Robert Mattner and 12K others
9.7K comments 3K shares

(Facebook, 2/26/16)

Skipping 2016 Republican National Convention Despite Endorsement

In May 2016, Rubio "Told Reporters He'll Not Only Vote For Trump, He'd Be Willing To Speak On His Behalf At The Republican National Convention In Cleveland." "In March, Marco Rubio dismissed Donald Trump as a "con artist" and "the most vulgar person ever to aspire to the presidency." This past week, the Florida senator told reporters he'll not only vote for Trump, he'd be willing to speak on his behalf at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland this summer. And he didn't rule out the possibility of serving in a Trump administration. Rubio said his apparent shift isn't that hard to understand. Supporting Trump as the presumptive GOP presidential nominee is an easy choice, he said, compared to the prospect of a Hillary Clinton victory at the polls in November. "Donald Trump will sign the repeal of Obamacare. She won't," Rubio told reporters Thursday. "I want the successor to Antonin Scalia on the Supreme Court to be a conservative. I believe that's the kind of judge that he'll appoint, and I know she won't. I want someone that will defend life. I know he will and she won't." Rubio said Trump earned his status as the GOP presumptive nominee at the ballot box. "He campaigned and the voters chose him," he said. "I respect that process. And so I'm going to support him. I'm going to vote for him." Social media, of course, won't let him off the hook that easily. "Rubio is truly a politician with no ideas, just a jumble of crap, ready to support any position, person, anything to help him get ahead," progressive radio talk show host Mike Signorile tweeted. "Stop Excusing Republicans Like Rubio For Supporting Trump Because Of A Stupid, Worthless Pledge," tweeted the conservative blog Red State, referring to Rubio's frequent promise during the campaign to get behind the eventual nominee. While Rubio was still a presidential contender, his rivalry with Trump featured highly charged, personal attacks. Trump, mocked the Florida senator as "Little Marco" and poked fun at his tendency to sweat on the

debate stage and drink lots of water. Rubio said Trump was unfit for the Oval Office, citing his inflammatory rhetoric, his past support for Democratic policies and his call for deporting undocumented immigrants. He also criticized Trump's physical features: "You know what they say about men with small hands ... You can't trust them." But Rubio also consistently said he would support whomever Republican voters nominated. And on Thursday, the Associated Press announced that Trump had captured the 1,237 delegates necessary to lock up the nomination. Despite the heated campaign, Rubio said it's time to move on. "We were competitors," he said of Trump. "I don't dislike him. I don't have any negative feelings about him personally. I disagree with a lot of his positions. That was well established during the campaign. (But) I also think he happens to be substantially better than Hillary Clinton." Al Cardenas, former head of the Florida Republican Party and a Rubio confidante, said the possibility that he and many other Republicans will support Trump is a "work in progress." But he's not willing to judge Rubio. "It's a fairly quick turnaround in his conversion to becoming a supporter, but so be it," said Cardenas, former chairman of the American Conservative Union. "I'm still not there. I guess Marco figured out a way to get there.'" (*USA Today*, 5/27/16)

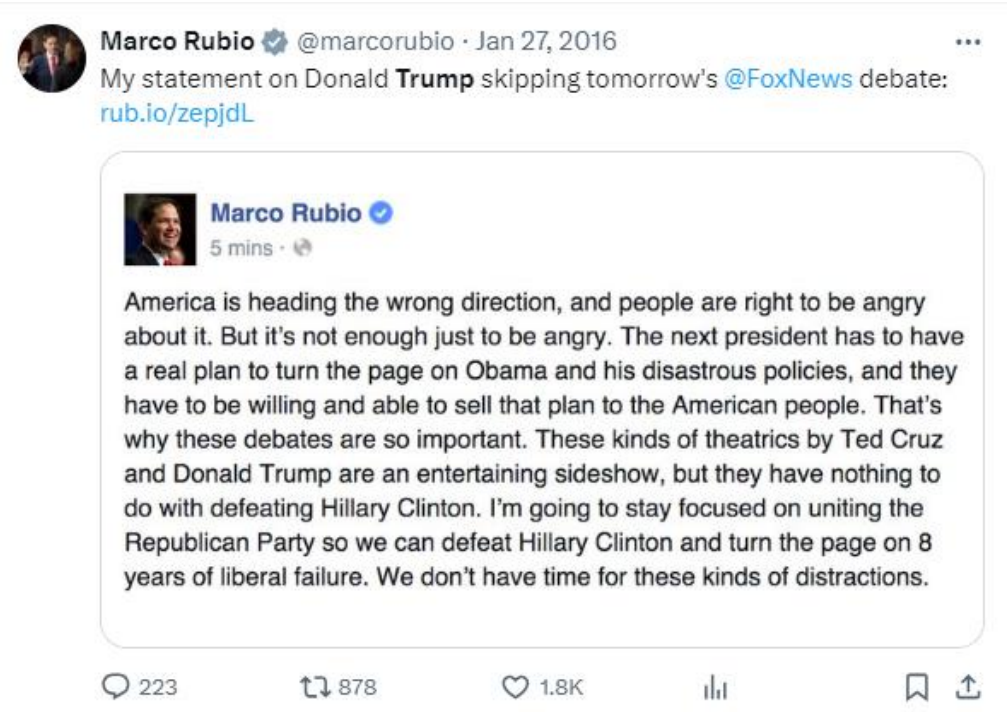
- **Previously, Rubio Had Been Reluctant To Endorse Trump In April 2016 And Had Been Signaling His Support For Ted Cruz After Dropping Out.** "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Tuesday endorsed Texas senator and Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz for president, sort of. In one of his first interviews since dropping out of the presidential race, Rubio sat down with conservative host Mark Levin for a video podcast to discuss a wide range of issues, including who he believes should be president. "I hope that they'll nominate a conservative," Rubio said. "The only one [presidential candidate] that fits that criteria is Ted Cruz." Rubio also slammed the Republican debates and the way they were promoted as reality TV. "Who is going to get voted off the island this week?" Rubio said. Despite Rubio's half-hearted endorsement of the Texas senator, he has not completely withdrawn from the race. By suspending his campaign, the delegates he collected during the primary will still be bound to him on the first ballot of an open convention. Rubio also shouted down any speculation that he could be Donald Trump's vice presidential pick, after the billionaire said he would consider Rubio to be on his ticket "I'm not going to be the vice president," the Florida senator said." (ABC News, 4/13/16)

In July 2016, Rubio Noted He Would Not Be Attending The 2016 RNC Citing Campaign Events. "Marco Rubio, former rival to presumptive GOP nominee Donald Trump, will skip the Republican National Convention. "Marco had planned to go to the convention before he decided to seek re-election," Rubio Senate campaign spokeswoman Olivia Perez-Cubas said in a statement. "Since Marco got into the race late, he will be in Florida campaigning and meeting with voters instead of going to Ohio." Rubio has not distanced himself from his rebukes of Trump, including saying that he could not trust him with the nuclear codes. But he has reluctantly endorsed him, heralding him as better than the alternative, Hillary Clinton. Rubio had suggested when he entered the Senate race that this decision was coming. "I'll have to re-examine that now that I have a campaign to run in Florida. I'll have to spend a lot more time there and a lot less time -- I'll have a lot less free time," he told CNN's Manu Raju." (CNN, 7/6/16)

Miscellaneous Criticisms

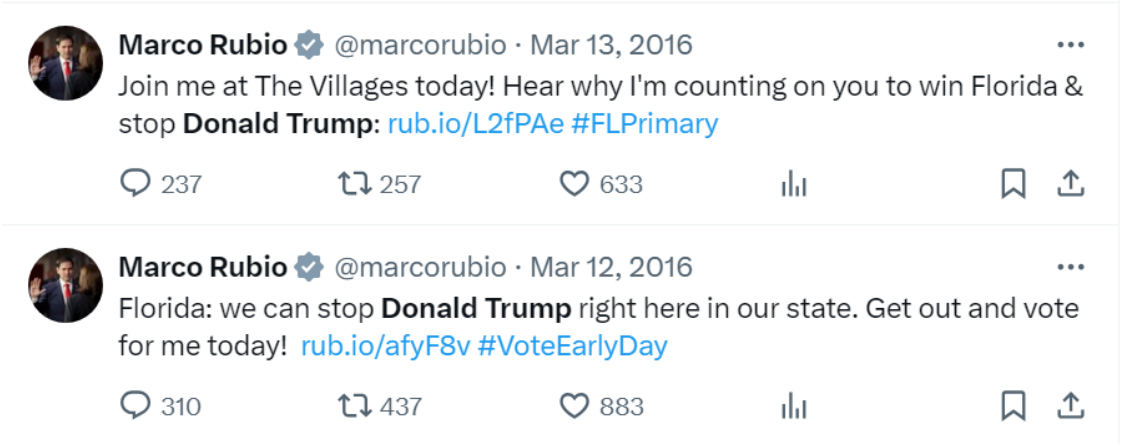
In 2015, "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Bashed GOP Front-Runner Donald Trump A Day After The Real Estate Mogul Called The Use Of Eminent Domain "Wonderful."'" "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio bashed GOP front-runner Donald Trump a day after the real estate mogul called the use of eminent domain "wonderful." After a campaign stop at a tech company in New Hampshire, Rubio told The Weekly Standard that Trump is "wrong" on the issue, adding that private property is "one of the most important rights" given to Americans. "He's wrong," Rubio said. "In Florida, when I was a state legislator, we passed what has become model legislation for other states around the country — that I actually passed — both a law and a constitutional amendment that keeps developers like Donald Trump from using eminent domain to take private property away from an owner and give it to another private owner, which is what the Kelo decision said should be legal unless states barred it. "So he's wrong about that," Rubio said. "One of the most important rights Americans have is private property." The Florida senator's comments come a day after Trump defended the practice, especially in instances where the creation of "massive jobs" is at stake. "I think eminent domain is wonderful. If you're building a highway … and you're going to be blocked by a hold-out — I think eminent domain for massive projects — for instance you're going to create massive jobs and you have somebody that's in the way, and you pay that person far more … is fine," Trump told Fox News' Bret Baier Tuesday. Trump remains in first place in the Washington Examiner's power rankings while Rubio is in fourth." (Washington Examiner, 10/7/15)

In January 2016, Rubio Criticized Trump As A Distraction And "Entertaining Sideshow" For Skipping A Debate. (Twitter, 1/27/16)

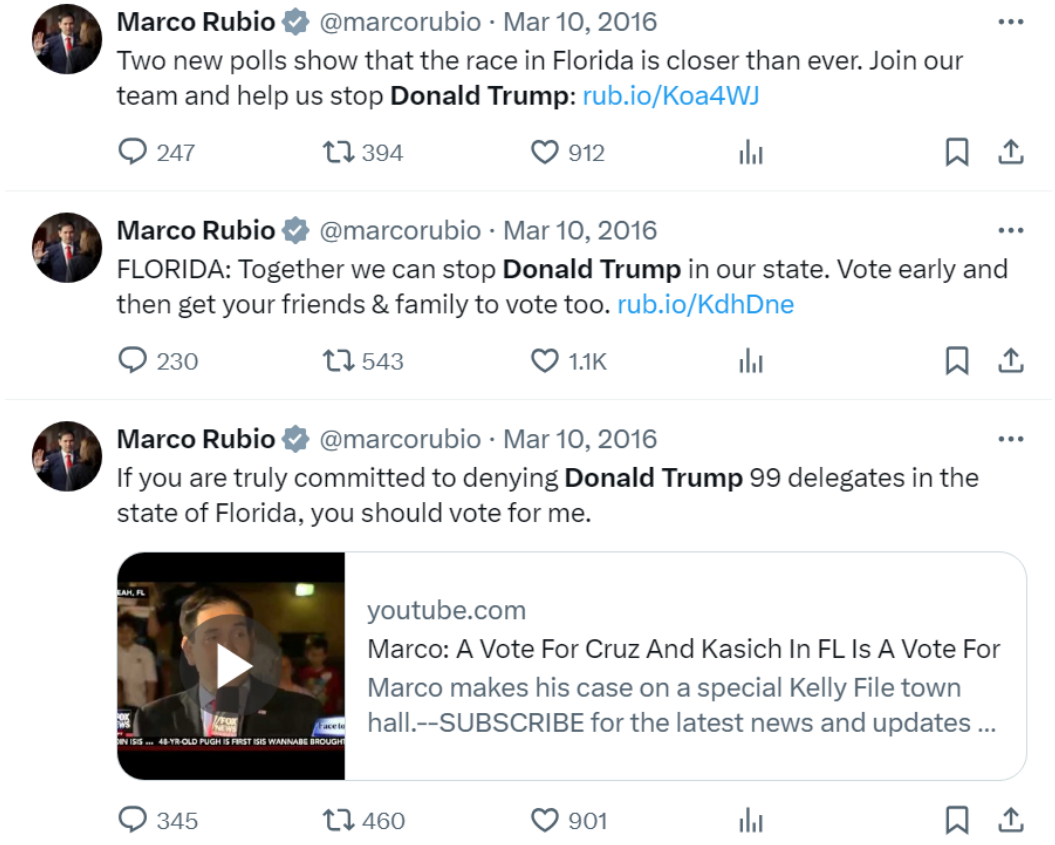

Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Jan 27, 2016
My statement on Donald Trump skipping tomorrow's @FoxNews debate:
rub.io/zepjdL
Marco Rubio
5 mins ·
America is heading the wrong direction, and people are right to be angry about it. But it's not enough just to be angry. The next president has to have a real plan to turn the page on Obama and his disastrous policies, and they have to be willing and able to sell that plan to the American people. That's why these debates are so important. These kinds of theatrics by Ted Cruz and Donald Trump are an entertaining sideshow, but they have nothing to do with defeating Hillary Clinton. I'm going to stay focused on uniting the Republican Party so we can defeat Hillary Clinton and turn the page on 8 years of liberal failure. We don't have time for these kinds of distractions.
223
878
1.8K

(Twitter, 1/27/16)

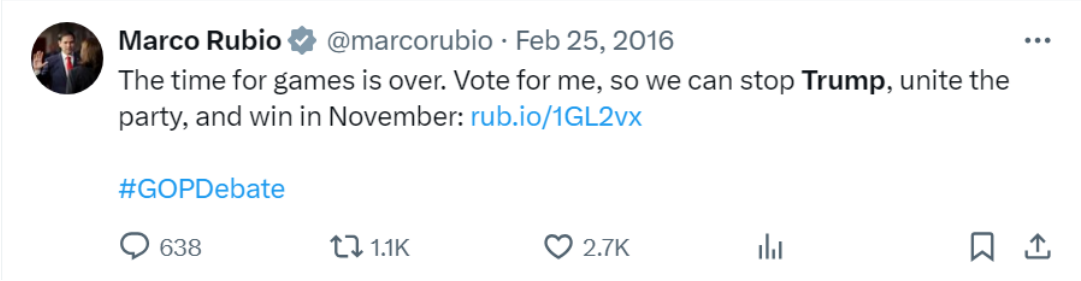
On Social Media, Rubio Called Several Times For Voters To "Stop Trump." (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 13, 2016
Join me at The Villages today! Hear why I'm counting on you to win Florida & stop Donald Trump: rub.io/L2fPAe #FLPrimary
237 257 633
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 12, 2016
Florida: we can stop Donald Trump right here in our state. Get out and vote for me today! rub.io/afyF8v #VoteEarlyDay
310 437 883

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 10, 2016
Two new polls show that the race in Florida is closer than ever. Join our team and help us stop Donald Trump: rub.io/Koa4WJ
247 394 912
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 10, 2016
FLORIDA: Together we can stop Donald Trump in our state. Vote early and then get your friends & family to vote too. rub.io/KdhDne
230 543 1.1K
Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Mar 10, 2016
If you are truly committed to denying Donald Trump 99 delegates in the state of Florida, you should vote for me.
youtube.com
Marco: A Vote For Cruz And Kasich In FL Is A Vote For
Marco makes his case on a special Kelly File town hall.--SUBSCRIBE for the latest news and updates ...
345 460 901

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Marco Rubio @marcorubio · Feb 25, 2016
The time for games is over. Vote for me, so we can stop Trump, unite the party, and win in November: rub.io/1GL2vx
#GOPDebate
638
1.1K
2.7K

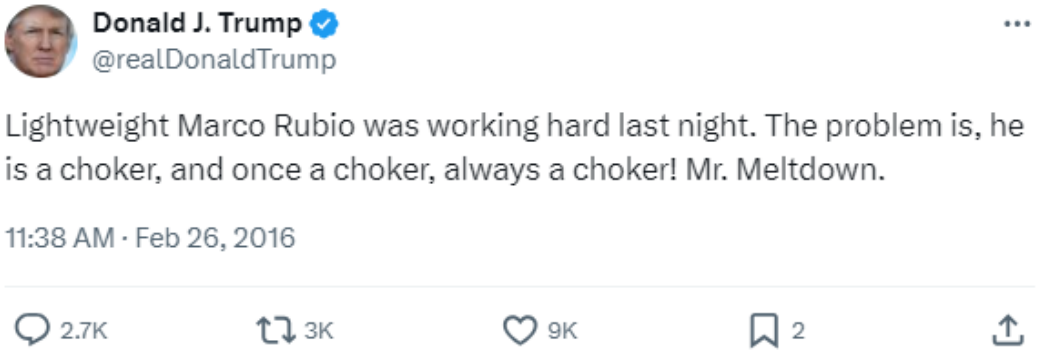
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

Of Note: Trump Criticisms Against Rubio (Top-Line)

Trump, In 2016: "I Will Be Using Facebook And Twitter To Expose Dishonest Lightweight Senator Marco Rubio. A Record No-Show In Senate, He Is Scamming Florida." "Donald Trump has promised an all-out campaign on Twitter and Facebook to sink Marco Rubio's floundering bid once and for all, eight days before voters in Florida could decide the political future of the freshman senator. "How do you fight millions of dollars of fraudulent commercials pushing for crooked politicians? I will be using Facebook & Twitter. Watch!" Trump teased on Twitter Sunday evening. After two tweets attacking former presidential opponent Lindsey Graham early Monday morning, Trump returned to his line of attack, tweeting, "I will be using Facebook and Twitter to expose dishonest lightweight Senator Marco Rubio. A record no-show in Senate, he is scamming Florida.'" (*Politico*, 3/7/16)

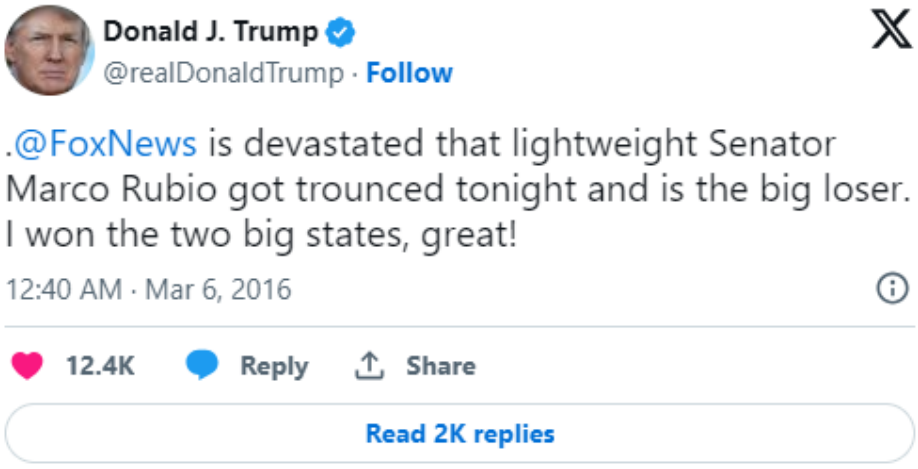
In 2016, Trump "Laced Into Rubio As "Even Worse" Than Ted Cruz, Calling The Florida Senator "Such A Scoundrel.'" "Trump then boasted of the WGC-Cadillac golf championship that concluded Sunday at his Doral, Florida course, before departing for a Concord, North Carolina, rally. Two hours later, Trump beseeched his followers to not believe "the millions of dollars of phony television ads by lightweight Rubio" and the Republican establishment. "Dishonest people!" he tweeted. At the Concord rally, Trump laced into Rubio as "even worse" than Ted Cruz, calling the Florida senator "such a scoundrel." "I mean, I'll tell you what — what he's done, I cannot believe he got away with it, but we'll expose it and see what happens," Trump said, waving his right hand. "But this guy is a disaster, on top of which he's a choker." Rubio drew Trump's attention over the last several weeks after the Florida senator took a page from the Manhattan business mogul's playbook and began mocking his opponent's "small hands," suggesting they could be indicative of a part of his lower anatomy, and attacking past business dealings, particularly with Trump University." (*Politico*, 3/7/16)

Trump: "Lightweight Marco Rubio Was Working Hard Last Night. The Problem Is, He Is A Choker, And Once A Choker, Always A Choker! Mr. Meltdown." (Twitter, 2/26/16)

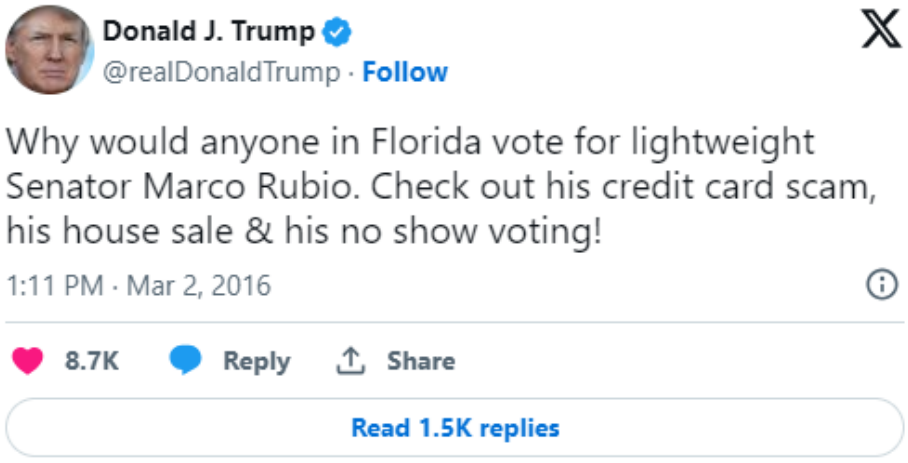

Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump
Lightweight Marco Rubio was working hard last night. The problem is, he is a choker, and once a choker, always a choker! Mr. Meltdown.
11:38 AM · Feb 26, 2016
2.7K
3K
9K
2

(Twitter, 2/26/16)

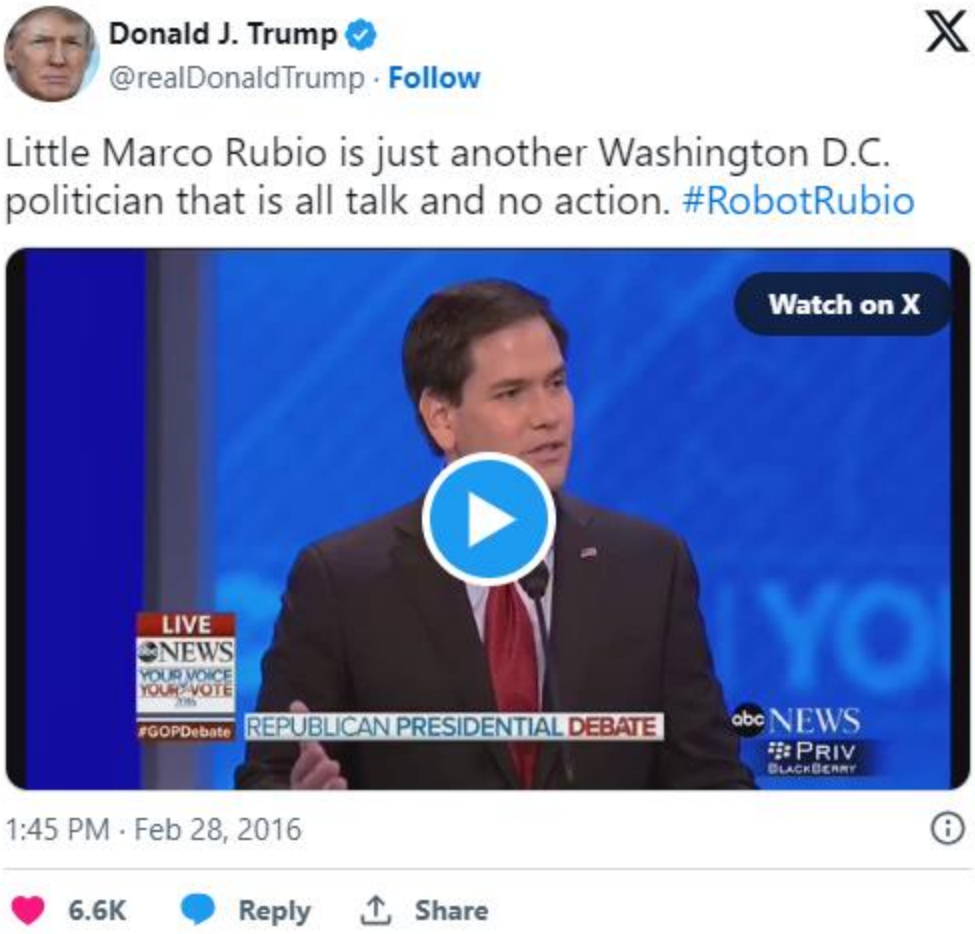
- **NOTE: Trump Has Issued Several Other Tweets During The 2016 GOP Primary Criticizing And Attacking Rubio, Including The Following Examples.** (Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
.@FoxNews is devastated that lightweight Senator Marco Rubio got trounced tonight and is the big loser. I won the two big states, great!
12:40 AM · Mar 6, 2016
12.4K
Reply
Share
Read 2K replies

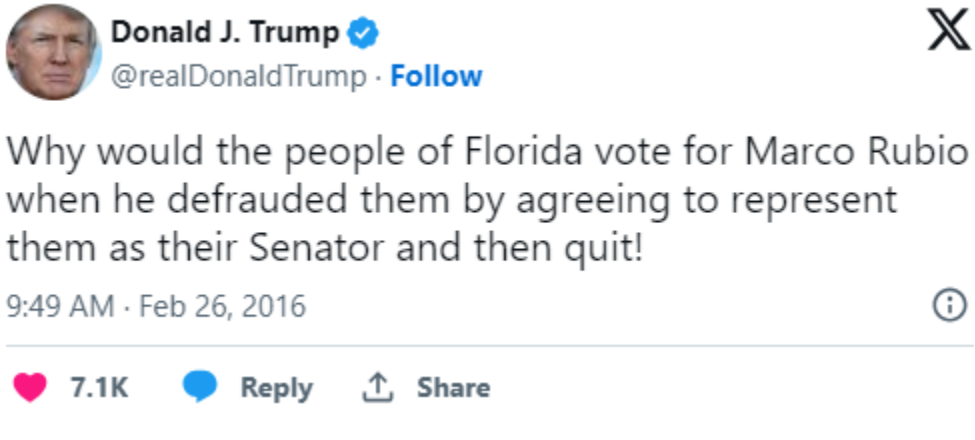
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Why would anyone in Florida vote for lightweight Senator Marco Rubio. Check out his credit card scam, his house sale & his no show voting!
1:11 PM · Mar 2, 2016
8.7K
Reply
Share
Read 1.5K replies

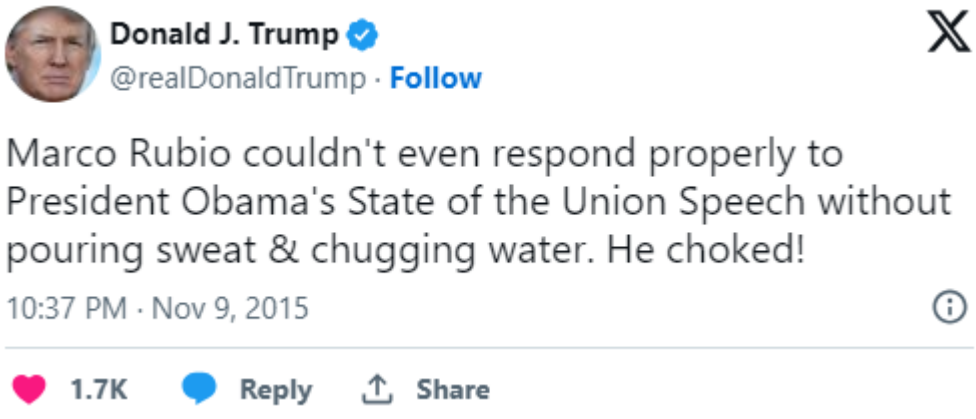
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)



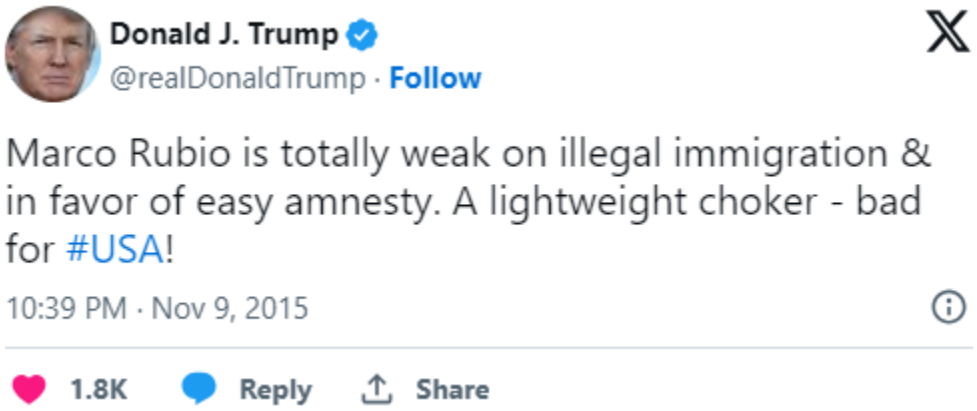
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Why would the people of Florida vote for Marco Rubio when he defrauded them by agreeing to represent them as their Senator and then quit!
9:49 AM · Feb 26, 2016
7.1K
Reply
Share

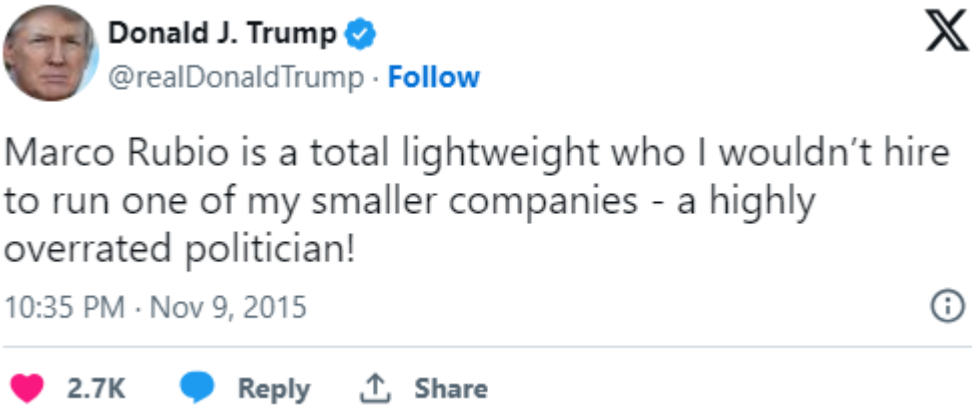
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio couldn't even respond properly to President Obama's State of the Union Speech without pouring sweat & chugging water. He choked!
10:37 PM · Nov 9, 2015
1.7K
Reply
Share

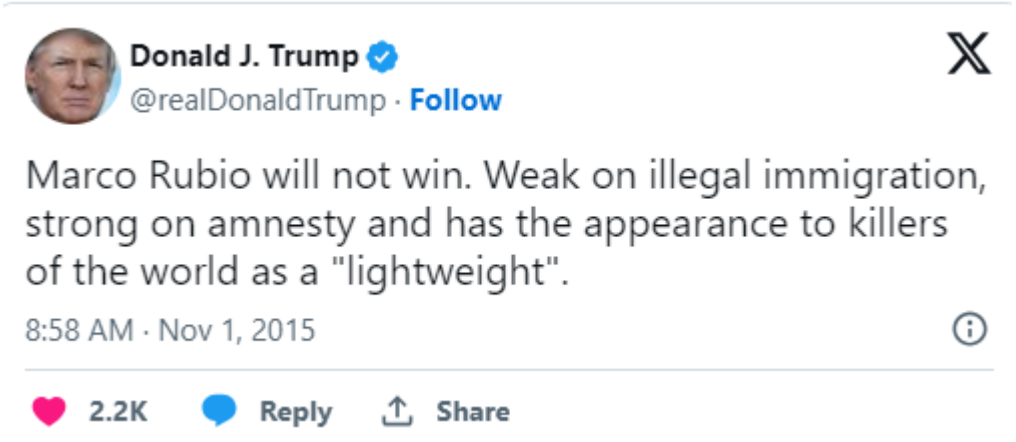
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio is totally weak on illegal immigration & in favor of easy amnesty. A lightweight choker - bad for #USA!
10:39 PM · Nov 9, 2015
1.8K
Reply
Share

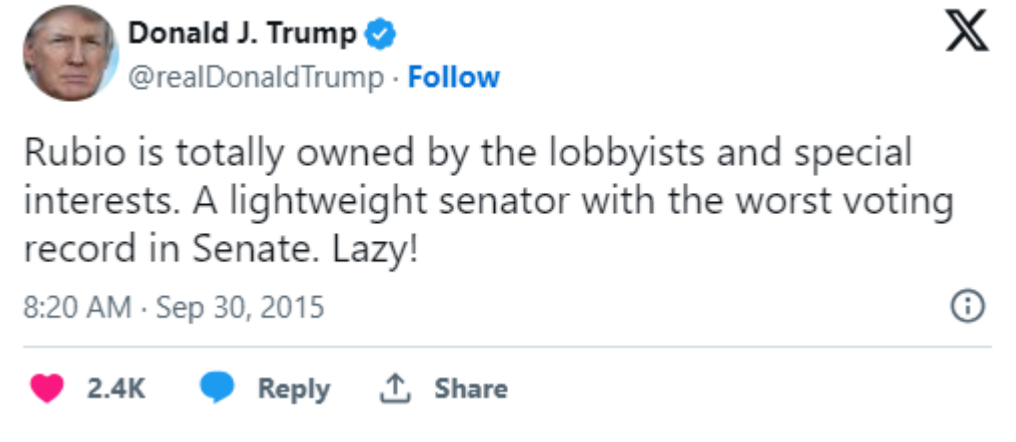
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio is a total lightweight who I wouldn't hire to run one of my smaller companies - a highly overrated politician!
10:35 PM · Nov 9, 2015
2.7K
Reply
Share

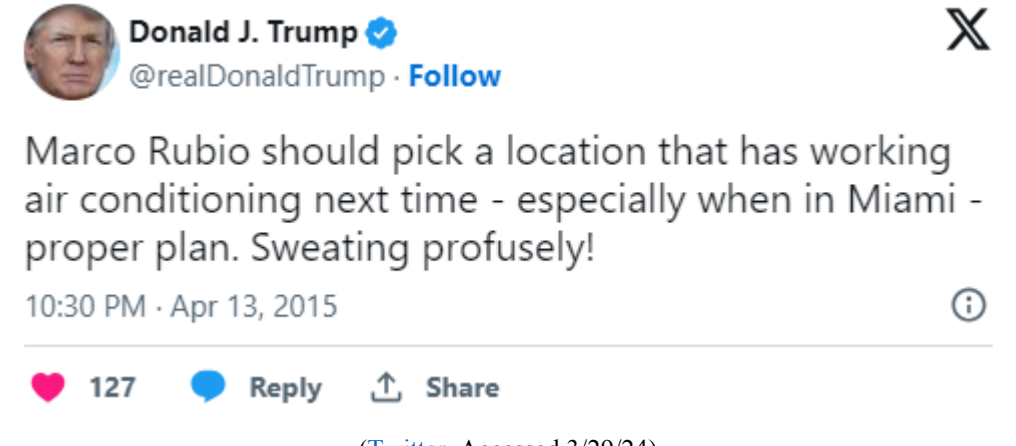
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio will not win. Weak on illegal immigration, strong on amnesty and has the appearance to killers of the world as a "lightweight".
8:58 AM · Nov 1, 2015
2.2K
Reply
Share

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Rubio is totally owned by the lobbyists and special interests. A lightweight senator with the worst voting record in Senate. Lazy!
8:20 AM · Sep 30, 2015
2.4K
Reply
Share

(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)


Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump · Follow
Marco Rubio should pick a location that has working air conditioning next time - especially when in Miami - proper plan. Sweating profusely!
10:30 PM · Apr 13, 2015
127
Reply
Share

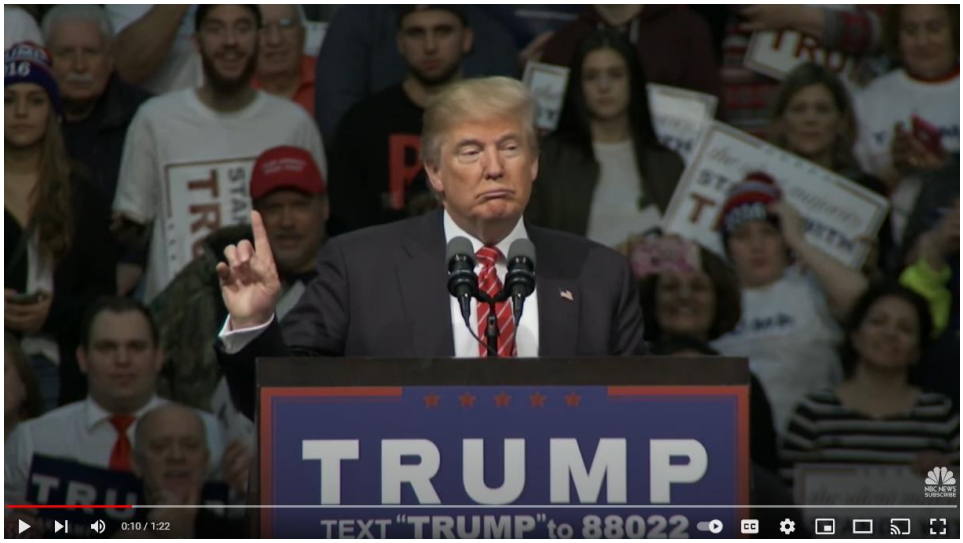
(Twitter, Accessed 3/29/24)

VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio's Widely Panned SOTU Response During Which Rubio Awkwardly Drank Water. (Facebook, 2/26/16)


Fox News
February 23, 2016
"It's Rubio!" Watch Donald J. Trump use a water bottle to mock Marco Rubio at a rally in Texas.
FORT WORTH, TX
12:57 PM CT
NJ GOV CHRIS CHRISTIE ENDORSES
DONALD TRUMP FOR PRESIDENT
17K
8.8K comments 3.4K shares

(Facebook, 2/26/16)

VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio As "Little Marco." (YouTube, 3/4/16)



(YouTube, 3/4/16)

VIDEO: In 2016, Trump Mocked Rubio As A "Choke Artist." (YouTube, 2/25/16)



(YouTube, 2/25/16)

Miscellaneous

Criticism Of MAGA-Aligned Republicans

In February 2021, Rubio Implicitly Criticized Marjorie Taylor-Greene Noting "Reporting That A Politician Believes In/Flirts With Conspiracy Theories Is Legit, But The Attention They Get Should Be Proportional To Their Ability To Influence Actual Public Policy Don't Make Them Famous, Help Them Raise Money Or Elevate Conspiracy Theories." (Twitter, 2/3/21)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
Reporting that a politician believes in/flirts with conspiracy theories is legit, but the attention they get should be proportional to their ability to influence actual public policy
Don't make them famous, help them raise money or elevate conspiracy theories
7:13 AM · Feb 3, 2021
2.7K
1.1K
11

(Twitter, 2/3/21)

"While Rubio Doesn't Identify The Subject Of His Entreaty, It's Not Hard To Suss Out." "While Rubio doesn't identify the subject of his entreaty, it's not hard to suss out. It's legitimate

to report on the embrace of conspiracy theories, he says, but such reports should be constrained by their political power. In other words, Greene's position as a freshman backbencher in the House should temper the attention she receives. It's a fair point, and certainly a better approach to Greene than the one offered by Rubio's colleague, Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.), who told a CNN reporter that he was too busy dealing with weather-related travel issues to be familiar with Greene's nonsense portfolio. The media must be cautious when it elevates false claims because it poses the risk of spreading untrue information and rallying more people to the fringe." (*Washington Post*, 2/3/21)

POLITICAL – ADDITIONAL ISSUES

Ethics – Financial Issues

Controversy – Misuse Of Taxpayer Funds

Rubio "Double-Billed Taxpayers For Flights Paid For By A Political Group, In His Case The Republican Party Of Florida. When The Matter Was Brought To Rubio's Attention During His 2010 Senate Race, Rubio Told The Miami Herald And St. Petersburg Times That It Was An Error, And He Agreed To Pay Back The Party $2,400." "Throughout the investigations, Rivera denied to reporters that he was the subject of the probes — even while a defense lawyer was negotiating with investigators on his behalf. A Florida judge in the civil ethics case concerning Rivera's finances determined that he "corruptly" failed to disclose his income and double-billed taxpayers for travel paid by a political committee associated with him. On March 5, the judge recommended a nearly $58,000 fine against Rivera. The ethics commission will take up the case April 17, just as Rubio might be running for president. Like Rivera, Rubio also double-billed taxpayers for flights paid for by a political group, in his case the Republican Party of Florida. When the matter was brought to Rubio's attention during his 2010 Senate race, Rubio told The Miami Herald and St. Petersburg Times that it was an error, and he agreed to pay back the party $2,400." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

In 2006, Rubio Was Reported To Have "Spent About $400,000 In Tax Dollars To Remodel Offices And Build A Members-Only Dining Room So Lawmakers Rushing To Meetings Or In The Throes Of Negotiations Would Not Have To Leave The Capitol To Eat." "In August 2006, before he was officially sworn in as speaker, Rubio did order some renovations to the House. The Times/Herald story the Democrats linked to noted, "When Rubio became speaker, he spent about $400,000 in tax dollars to remodel offices and build a members-only dining room so lawmakers rushing to meetings or in the throes of negotiations would not have to leave the Capitol to eat." The story was written before renovations were complete. The West Miami Republican said he sought to "decentralize the power of the speakership from being some imperial position to being more of a manager of the process." That involved moving some offices around inside the Capitol. He wanted the clerk and sergeant-at-arms moved from the fourth floor to the fifth floor, which pushed the House rules and calendar council to the 12th floor. Rubio also wanted the budget and policy committees together, and did have a members-only dining room built. A dining area just for lawmakers raised some eyebrows at the time. While the Capitol had a public cafeteria and separate snack bar, some critics wondered if a

private room was an excuse for lawmakers to meet away from where public records laws could find them. (The dining room was built, and is still there.)" (Politifact, 11/9/15)

- **"In All, Rubio Ordered Almost $560,000 In Renovations, According To Records From The Speaker's Office."** "In all, Rubio ordered almost $560,000 in renovations, according to records from the Speaker's Office. There were some rumblings that a state representative so opposed to taxes and government waste — in 2006 he published his book 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future — shouldn't have been spending that kind of money. But is that a lot? Consider that his predecessor Allan Bense only spent $1,500, according to the Times/Herald. On the high end, John Thrasher spent almost $7 million in 1999 to renovate the House chamber, the speaker's office and the House office building. Former Speaker Daniel Webster spent about $100,000 in 1997 to build a spiral staircase between the Speaker's Office and the Republican Majority Office. Rubio closed the staircase. The leader of the House Democrats at the time, Rep. Dan Gelber of Miami Beach, acknowledged the spending but didn't make it an issue, instead praising Rubio for including Democrats in new committee suites. "I think the speaker has a prerogative to spend his budget as he sees fit," he said at the time." (Politifact, 11/9/15)

- **"Rubio's Spending Not Only Exceeded His Predecessor's, It Was Also At Odds With His Image As A Conservative Champion Of Small Government. The Irony Of Rubio Seemingly Violating The First Principle Of His 100 Ideas Manifesto "Do Not Unnecessarily Expand The Role Of Government" Was Media Fodder For Weeks."** "The incoming speaker also spent more than $500,000 on renovations, including a private dining room for lawmakersa necessity, he said, to help members eat without being hounded by lobbyists. Justified or not, all of this spending was a public-relations disaster. (Later, Rubio would also face criticism for using a state GOP credit card for personal expenses; he said the charges were mistakes that he ultimately covered himself.) While most new speakers allocate money to renovate their offices, Rubio's spending not only exceeded his predecessor's, it was also at odds with his image as a conservative champion of small government. The irony of Rubio seemingly violating the first principle of his 100 Ideas manifesto"Do not unnecessarily expand the role of government"was media fodder for weeks. "What happened to smaller government?" asked a December 2006 headline in the Miami Herald. "Memo to Mr. Rubio," the Orlando Sentinel declared. "You were chosen by your colleagues to be speaker of the House, not governor." "Marco, unlike Jeb, is not afraid of a collaborative process," says one Democratic House colleague." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

As Speaker, Rubio Budgeted $2 Million To Grow His Payroll By 20 New Jobs, Mostly Stocked By Jeb Bush Aides. "Weeks later, as Rubio prepared to take over the speaker's chair, he raised hackles by budgeting $2.5 million to redecorate the office and to gift supporters with 20 new jobs. His chief of staff received $175,212; his spokesman and deputy chief of staff each got $119,484. And Ken Sorensen, an ally who had been term-limited out of the House, landed $100,000 to show new lawmakers around the capital. Despite that largesse, Rubio began a hard turn to the right on financial issues — a shift that planted the seed for his Tea Party campaign to come." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **"In The Final Months Of Bush's Tenure In 2006, Rubio Had Fired Nearly A Dozen Veteran House Staffers And Spent $2 Million To Hire Some Of Bush's Closest Advisers, Including His Budget Director, Chief Economist, And Transportation Guru."** "AS HE HAD PUT the pieces of his speakership in place, Rubio had seemed to be trying to claim Jeb Bush's mantle for himself. In the final months of Bush's tenure in 2006, Rubio had fired nearly a dozen veteran House staffers and spent $2 million to hire some of Bush's closest advisers, including his budget director, chief economist, and transportation guru. In fact, Rubio hired so many Bush aides18 in allthat capital insiders began calling his suite "the governor's office in exile." His chief of staff, Richard Corcoran, was paid $175,212$46,000 more than the governor. (Rubio argued that the House had to pay competitive salaries to retain top experts.)" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Controversy – Misuse Of Florida GOP Credit Card

NOTE: In 2015, Trump Slammed Rubio Describing Him As A "A Disaster With His Credit Cards." "When asked about his numerous money woes at the last Republican debate, Marco Rubio dismissed them as "discredited attacks from Democrats and my political opponents." He then pivoted to discussing his humble upbringing and solidarity with middle-class Americans, which was enough to shake off moderator Becky Quick. Yet, the controversy surrounding Rubio's financial background — including his misuse of a Republican Party credit card, problems with his homes, and the liquidation of his retirement account — has only intensified in the past week. Donald Trump, who's yet to settle on the perfect Rubio insult, tried calling his rival "a disaster with his credit cards," and journalists from across the political spectrum noted that the criticism of Rubio's finances is far from "discredited." The pressure grew so intense that Rubio promised to release records from his time in Florida's House of Representatives "in the next few weeks." A Rubio campaign aide claimed, "our plan has always been to release these," but that's dubious since journalists have been trying to obtain the files for a decade." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

On A State GOP-Issued American Express Credit Card, "Rubio Racked Up About $100,000 In Charges For Meals And Travel As Well As A Few Groceries, A Family Minivan Repair, A Salon Expense And Even A Family Vacation In Georgia." "During the 2010 campaign, Rubio's state GOP-issued American Express bills from 2005-08 were obtained by the Herald. In all, Rubio racked up about $100,000 in charges for meals and travel as well as a few groceries, a family minivan repair, a salon expense and even a family vacation in Georgia. Rubio said at the time that most of the charges were for party-building reasons and that any personal charges rung up on the cards — such as the Georgia trip — were paid directly to the credit-card company by him. In some cases, Rubio said, his travel agent made an error by using the wrong card. Other times, he acknowledged he did the same thing, as at a home-improvement store. "For example, I pulled the wrong card from my wallet to pay for pavers," he disclosed for the first time two years ago in his autobiography, "American Son." In the book, Rubio dismisses most of the criticisms against him and his spending as motivated by politics or the news media's thirst for scandal. Still, Rubio did acknowledge in his book that it was a book-keeping "disaster" for him and his wife to manage two political committees that raised about $600,000 to help his bid for speaker." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **"The Tampa Bay Times Reported In 2010 That Much Of The $100,000 Rubio Put On The Card Counted As Personal Expenses, Including Lavish Dinners, Repairs To His Family Minivan, And Purchases From A Wine Store Near His House. There Was Even A $6,773 Charge For A Rubio Family Reunion At A Georgia Resort."** "The main focus of the current controversy is Rubio's mixing of personal and business expenses when he was speaker of the Florida House of Representatives. Between 2005 and 2008 Rubio had a Republican Party of Florida American Express card. Under IRS rules, donations to political parties, which are tax exempt, can only go toward influencing elections. According to former party spokesperson Katie Gordon, the card was "a corporate card and is meant to be used for business expenses." But the Tampa Bay Times reported in 2010 that much of the $100,000 Rubio put on the card counted as personal expenses, including lavish dinners, repairs to his family minivan, and purchases from a wine store near his house. There was even a $6,773 charge for a Rubio family reunion at a Georgia resort." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Rubio Seemingly Misled The Public In Contending He "Reviewed The Bill Every Month And Paid For The Expenses He Deemed Personal"; Rubio Not Only Allowed Personal Charges On The Card But Also Failed To Make Monthly Payments As He Claimed. "When the allegations first surfaced, Rubio said he reviewed the bill every month and paid for the expenses he deemed personal. "I was as diligent as possible to ensure the party did not pay for items that were unrelated to party business," he said. The Times reported that during his time as speaker, Rubio made $13,900 in payments to American Express to reimburse the party for his personal expenses. (His relatives sent checks that covered most of the reunion expenses, but the party wound up paying $714.) However, the paper found no evidence that the payments were made monthly, and there was one six-month period where Rubio made no payments." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Rubio And Other Florida GOP Politicians Are Known To Have Been Investigated By The IRS In Relation To The Use Of The Party-Issued Cards. "The IRS examined the finances of Rubio and other GOP politicians and in late 2010 slapped a subpoena for financial records on the Republican Party of Florida. But the probe ended without any charges or any other publicly observable activity. The credit-card and political-committee spending weren't the only paperwork nightmares for Rubio." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

"In 2012, The Florida Commission On Ethics Looked At Rubio's Use Of His Florida GOP AMEX And Cleared Him Of Any Wrongdoing. One Investigator Said He Still Found The "Negligence" Rubio Exhibited "Disturbing.'" (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

In 2015, A Release Of The Amex Card Statements From 2005 To 2006 Showed "Rubio Charged More Than $22,000 In Personal Expenses To The Card While The Account Incurred More Than $1,700 In Delinquency And Late Fees Over A Four-Year Period While He Was In The Florida Legislature." "Surging Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio sought to tamp down an escalating controversy Saturday, releasing previously secret records that detailed his use of a Florida Republican Party credit card for personal expenses. The records, which cover a 22-month period in 2005 and 2006, combined with previously disclosed credit card statements, show that Rubio charged more than $22,000 in

personal expenses to the card while the account incurred more than $1,700 in delinquency and late fees over a four-year period while he was in the Florida legislature. Rubio has maintained that he paid out of his pocket for any personal expenses on the American Express card, which he used from 2005 to 2008. But he has been beset with questions from political rivals about his spending, and been criticized by opponents for his years-long refusal to detail personal spending and release statements for most of the first two years he had the card. Rubio's handling of the card gained renewed attention this past week after attacks by his 2016 presidential rival Donald Trump, who accused the Florida senator of being a "disaster" with his card and living beyond his means. The attack underscored the extent to which the credit card issue, and, more broadly, Rubio's history of amassing high amounts of personal debt, stand out as potential political liabilities as his presidential campaign gains traction. In a news release Saturday, Rubio's campaign portrayed the issue as resolved, listing eight personal expenses from the newly released statements that it said Rubio had paid. But the campaign did not provide documentation showing those payments." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

- **"The Information Released Saturday, First Reported By Politico And Later Distributed By Rubio's Campaign, Shows That His Personal Charges Included $3,756 To A Tile Company, $599 To An Auto Dealership And $1,745 In Hotel And Car Rental Costs In Las Vegas, Where Rubio Has Family."** "The information released Saturday, first reported by Politico and later distributed by Rubio's campaign, shows that his personal charges included $3,756 to a tile company, $599 to an auto dealership and $1,745 in hotel and car rental costs in Las Vegas, where Rubio has family. It's unclear whether the bulk of late fees and penalties were paid personally by Rubio or by the Florida GOP. Rubio spokesman Todd Harris said, "When Marco was responsible for late fees, he paid them. When the party was responsible because it didn't make its payments, it paid them." A Florida GOP spokesman did not respond to a request for comment." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

- **Rubio Faced Delinquency And Payment Past Due Notices During The First Two Months That He Held The Card.** "After his first month with the card, Rubio was notified that the bill had not been paid on time. On top of the Feb. 16, 2005, statement, there was an admonition from American Express in bold letters: "Your account is 30 days past due." The warning was repeated again on top of the March bill, this time with a delinquency charge of $39.78 added. Harris said that these past-due payments had been the party's responsibility because they were related to business charges that were supposed to be paid by the party." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

- **"The Problems With Bill Paying Only Worsened In The Coming Years. For Nine Consecutive Months In 2006 And 2007, The Past-Due Warning Appeared At The Top Of Rubio's Statements. In One Month Alone, His Card Was Assessed A $388 Delinquency Fee."** "The problems with bill paying only worsened in the coming years. For nine consecutive months in 2006 and 2007, the past-due warning appeared at the top of Rubio's statements. In one month alone, his card was assessed a $388 delinquency fee. Many of the charges on the card looked like legitimate business expenses — the drumbeat of schmoozing by a rising politician. But he also used the card for expenses large and small that appeared to be more personal, including $10,000 for 20 rooms at a luxury plantation resort. Rubio's American Express spending first surfaced during the

2010 campaign in reports by the Miami Herald and St. Petersburg Times. Rubio accused one of his GOP primary opponents — then-Gov. Charlie Crist — of leaking information about the card to the media. He reiterated that allegation last week in New Hampshire after Trump's attacks. "It didn't work then, and it won't work now," Rubio said." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

Controversy – Misuse Of Campaign Funds

"Prior To Becoming Speaker, Rubio And His Wife Controlled Two Political Committees That Collected $600,000 Altogether. The Times Found That They Failed To Disclose $34,000 In Expenses, Paid Family Members For Expenses That Were Incorrectly Labeled, And Spent Little On Contributions To Other Candidates." "There were various other issues with Rubio's political spending. Prior to becoming speaker, Rubio and his wife controlled two political committees that collected $600,000 altogether. The Times found that they failed to disclose $34,000 in expenses, paid family members for expenses that were incorrectly labeled, and spent little on contributions to other candidates. Later it was discovered that as speaker, Rubio double-billed the Republican Party of Florida and state taxpayers for eight flights, totaling about $2,400. He said it was a "mistake" and reimbursed the party." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Rubio Has Acknowledged That He Made A Mistake Using His Family's Personal Credit Cards For Political Expenses. "Rubio's management of campaign cash also seemed chaotic. He formed two political committees and doled out money to relatives for services and expenses. He grappled with the handling of credit cards for committee business as he criss-crossed the state campaigning among his legislative colleagues for support to be elected House speaker, Rubio recalled in his 2012 memoir. He named his wife, Jeanette, as treasurer of one of the committees. "That decision proved to be a disaster," Rubio wrote. "I often used my or Jeanette's personal credit cards to pay for many of the campaign's expenditures. When I received my statement I would spend hours trying to figure out which were political, and which were personal." Rubio's wife usually didn't join him on trips, but when it came time to pay bills, Rubio wrote, "she had to jog my memory to determine which credit card purchases were campaign expenditures, sometimes weeks after I had made them. It was an imperfect accounting system, to say the least.'" (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

Controversy – Failure To Report Suspicious Line Of Credit

"After He Became Speaker, The Herald Discovered In 2008 That He Took Out A $135,000 Home-Equity Line Of Credit On His West Miami House But Failed To Report It On His Financial Disclosures. The Lender, Miami-Based U.S. Century Bank, Gave Him The Loan Just 37 Days After Rubio Bought The House." "After he became speaker, the Herald discovered in 2008 that he took out a $135,000 home-equity line of credit on his West Miami house but failed to report it on his financial disclosures. The lender, Miami-based U.S. Century Bank, gave him the loan just 37 days after Rubio bought the house. "There's nothing unusual about the loan or the application," Rubio told the Herald at the time. "They went out and ordered the appraisal. … They said I qualified for $135,000. I took the equity line." Rubio explained that the failure to disclose the loan was "an oversight," and he amended his forms." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **"In December 2005, Rubio And His Wife Bought A Home For $550,000 In West Miami. About A Month Later, The Rubios Qualified For A $135,000 Home-Equity Loan From U.S. Century Bank, Which Was Owned By Rubio's Supporters, Because An Appraisal Valued The Home At $735,000 — Far Above The Purchase Price."** "Rubio owns two homes, and he's had problems with both. In December 2005, Rubio and his wife bought a home for $550,000 in West Miami. About a month later, the Rubios qualified for a $135,000 home-equity loan from U.S. Century Bank, which was owned by Rubio's supporters, because an appraisal valued the home at $735,000 — far above the purchase price. The home-equity loan initially did not appear on Rubio's financial-disclosure forms, but he quickly updated them when the Miami Herald asked about the omission in 2008." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

"Rubio Got Very Generous Terms To Finance The House From Miami's U.S. Century Bank, Whose CEO Was A Former Head Of The Florida Republican Party Named Jim Greer, Who Later Went To Jail For Money Laundering." "Mr. Rubio bought the house from a shell company called Sanval Boats LLC and no one knows who controlled that entity and hence who he in fact bought it from. But we do know that Mr. Rubio got very generous terms to finance the house from Miami's U.S. Century Bank, whose CEO was a former head of the Florida Republican Party named Jim Greer, who later went to jail for money laundering. A book about Greer called The Chairman: The Rise and Betrayal of Jim Greer has some juicy anecdotes about Mr. Rubio and David Rivera, Mr. Rubio's one-time best friend and roommate as well as a noted womanizer and former Florida State House member and federal congressman. (A number of other top officials at the U.S. Century Bank were major political supporters of Mr. Rubio's.)" (Observer, 1/18/16)

"Mr. Rubio's $135,000 Home Equity Loan Was Granted Only Because U.S. Century Bank Mysteriously Reappraised Its Worth Upwards By About One-Third, To $735,000, Little More Than A Month After He Purchased The Property." "In any event, Mr. Rubio's $135,000 home equity loan was granted only because U.S. Century Bank mysteriously reappraised its worth upwards by about one-third, to $735,000, little more than a month after he purchased the property. "It looks a lot like somebody's currying favor with an important political person," one real estate analyst said of Mr. Rubio's real estate dealings in a 2008 story that ran in a Miami newspaper. "People off the street don't get this deal." It's worth pointing out here that Miami-Dade County assessors put the market value of the house at $503,000 in 2006, some 50 percent less than US Century Bank's appraisal at the same time. The house's assessed value topped out the following year at $540,401 and last year county assessors estimated its worth at a mere $400,492, an increase from $391,443 in 2013." (Observer, 1/18/16)

Controversy – Failure To Make Proper Filings For PACSs

Rubio And His Wife Are Known To Have Established Two Nonprofit PAC Entities FCLC And FCLG, Which Were Both Dissolved By Florida Officials For Failure To File Annual Report Despite Having Collected Thousands Of Dollars In Contributions. "During its brief existence, FCLC raised $228,350, of which roughly $35,000 disappeared into thin air, according to the entity's own tax returns. Its largest donor by far was a scandal-plagued PAC called OPH ($50,000) but Democratic super-lobbyist Ron Book also gave generously. Bridget Nocco, Mr.

Rubio's lobbyist pal, was paid nearly $26,000 by the PAC for salary and consulting services, according to its nonprofit tax filings with the IRS. Shortly before its demise FCLC made two payments to a super PAC (which are known as 527s, based on the IRS rule that allows them) with a similar name, Floridians for Conservative Leadership in Government (FCLG). The latter was formed in 2004 with Marco Rubio as its president and registered agent, his wife as the VP and Urquiola as its treasurer. In any event, the State of Florida dissolved Mr. Rubio's 527 in 2006 because—you guessed it—it failed to file an annual report. Many of the companies and individuals that donated to the two groups had major business interests before the Florida Legislature and the two entities had overlapping donors, such as super-lobbyist Mr. Book, and payees, such as Bridget Nocco, who netted $90,062 from the 527 for salary and consulting services. Another notable recipient of cash from Mr. Rubio's 527 was a company called Servicarga, which in 2004 received $3,500, which it billed for "courier services." What's curious here is that Mr. Rubio's wife owned Servicarga and that, according to IRS returns and other documents, the company stopped operating in 1997." (Observer, 1/18/16)

Controversy – Failure To Make Mortgage Payments/ Foreclosure Proceedings Against Property Jointly Owned With David Rivera

Rubio Is Known To Have Owned A House With Disgraced Former Congressman David Rivera That Was Later Subjected To Foreclosure Proceedings; The House, Purchased In 2005, Was Put Up For Sale In 2015. "The brick-fronted tract house with a satellite dish and a yellow fire hydrant in front looks like many middle-class homes in Florida's capital, except for the two names on the deed. Marco Rubio: U.S. senator and would-be presidential candidate. David Rivera: Scandal-plagued former congressman under investigation in a federal campaign-finance probe. In many ways, it has been a house of horrors for Rubio, a financial and political liability heading into the 2016 election. While he and Rivera were state legislators, they paid way too much for it in 2005, only to see foreclosure proceedings embarrassingly initiated against them during Rubio's 2010 Senate race. At another point, a tropical storm flooded the entire neighborhood so badly that neighbors used canoes to get around. Now, the three-bedroom property stands as a stubborn symbol of both a politically problematic friendship and lingering questions about Rubio's personal finances, which dogged him on the campaign trail in 2010 and may do so again. The friendship has frayed in recent years, friends say, as the fortunes of Rubio, 43, and Rivera, 49, have diverged. Last week, they put the 1,228-square-foot house up for sale. The list price is $125,000 — $10,000 less than what the two men paid for it a decade ago. But chances are the home won't sell before April, when Rubio says he'll decide whether to seek the presidency. Rubio's critics are waiting to make hay of any revelations that may come of the federal investigation of Rivera and to point to their status as roommates during the years when Rivera allegedly engaged in illegal campaign activities. "This will be an issue," declared Craig Smith, a top adviser for the Ready for Hillary super PAC, echoing the views of many supporters and detractors alike. "When you run for president, voters and the press have an insatiable appetite for people's histories, what they've done, who they are. … It raises questions about his judgment, about the kind of people he would bring with him into government, into a campaign.'" (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

"In June 2010, Deutsche Bank Hired A Company To Initiate Foreclosure Proceedings On The House He Co-Owned With Rivera, Claiming The Mortgage Had Not Been Paid For Five Months." "Two years later, a worse housing problem — this time in Tallahassee — vexed him. In June 2010, Deutsche Bank hired a company to initiate foreclosure proceedings on the house he co-owned with Rivera, claiming the mortgage had not been paid for five months. During that period, Rivera had been in Tallahassee for pre-session committee weeks and the regular 60-day lawmaking session that begins in March. The two men characterized the dispute as a disagreement with the bank over the interest-only mortgage they had on the property. News of the foreclosure rocked Rubio on the campaign trail. Rivera, running for his first and only successful congressional bid, quickly hand-delivered a $9,525 cashier's check to cover missed payments and fees. "There is no foreclosure," Rivera told the St. Petersburg Times then. "The mortgage is paid and up to date." Rubio was infuriated, friends say. Rubio has handled paying the mortgage ever since. He and Rivera got a mutual friend to help manage the property and find a tenant later that year, a single mother who recently moved out. The tenant declined to speak with POLITICO, but she said in a written statement that Rubio and his wife "have been very gracious and understanding of my circumstances." She called them "extraordinary landlords" and expressed her "deep appreciation … for all that you've done." Neighbors say they had little idea about the drama surrounding the house or the ambitions of Rubio. Caridad Tamayo, who has lived in the neighborhood for five years, said she didn't recognize Rubio's name. Neighbor Richard Linck said he knew about Rubio but had "no idea" he was planning to run for president. "The reality is Marco wants to sell this house because it's horrible," one friend said. "It's been nothing but trouble for him. There was the foreclosure. There was a flood that made it tough to get to without a canoe at one point. And there's David. Marco won't turn his back on David. But we all wish he would." Rubio has kept his distance more and more from Rivera as Rubio became a serious, national figure while Rivera lost his congressional seat and reeled from multiple scandals." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

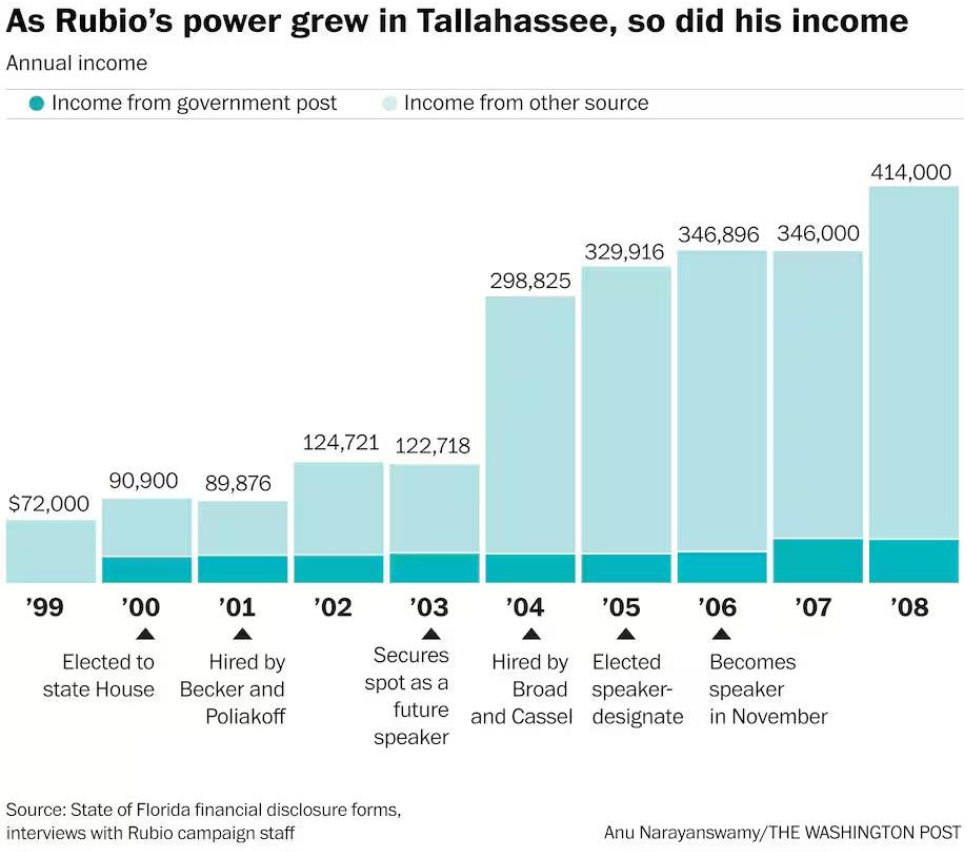
<u>Controversy – Questionable Self-Enrichment And Lobbying During Political Service</u>

"During Nine Years In Tallahassee, As Rubio Rose In Prominence And Ascended To The State House Speakership, He Became Increasingly Well Compensated As He Walked A Narrow Line Between His Work As A Lawmaker And An Employee Of Outside Firms With Interests Before The State Government." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **"Although He Began His Legislative Career As A Man Of Modest Means, Rubio In 2008 Reached An Income Level That Placed Him In The Top 1 Percent Of American Earners."** (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)
- **"His Outside Work Included Helping Real Estate Developers Navigate City Hall Bureaucracies, Assisting A Law Firm In Adding Ethnic Diversity To Its Client Base And Lawyer Roster, Teaching College-Level Political Science Classes, And Coordinating Conference Calls For A Washington Lobbyist Seeking Federal Funding For Miami Hospitals."** (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)
- **"Rubio's Annual Income Grew From About $72,000 When He Was Elected To The State House In 2000 To $414,000 In 2008, When His Two-Year Speakership Ended,**

According To Financial Disclosure Forms And Interviews With Rubio Campaign Staff Members." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **"About 80 Percent Of His Total Income During His Tenure In The State House Came From Florida Law Firms That Lobby State And Local Governments, According To A Washington Post Analysis Of State Financial Disclosure Forms. Much Of The Rest Was His Legislative Salary, Typically About $29,000 A Year."** (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)



(*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

"Rubio's Income Raised Some Concerns Among His Colleagues, Particularly After His Big Jump Upon Securing The Speakership, Said Mike Fasano, Who As House Majority Leader In 2001 Gave Rubio An Early Leadership Post But Became A Critic And Backed Rubio's 2010 Senate Rival, Charlie Crist (D)." "Rubio's income raised some concerns among his colleagues, particularly after his big jump upon securing the speakership, said Mike Fasano, who as House majority leader in 2001 gave Rubio an early leadership post but became a critic and backed Rubio's 2010 Senate rival, Charlie Crist (D). "Other members of the Florida House do not see their salary triple overnight," said Fasano, who is backing Bush's presidential campaign. "I feel confident in saying that if he had not been selected to the speaker-designate, his salary would not have shot up to $300,000.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

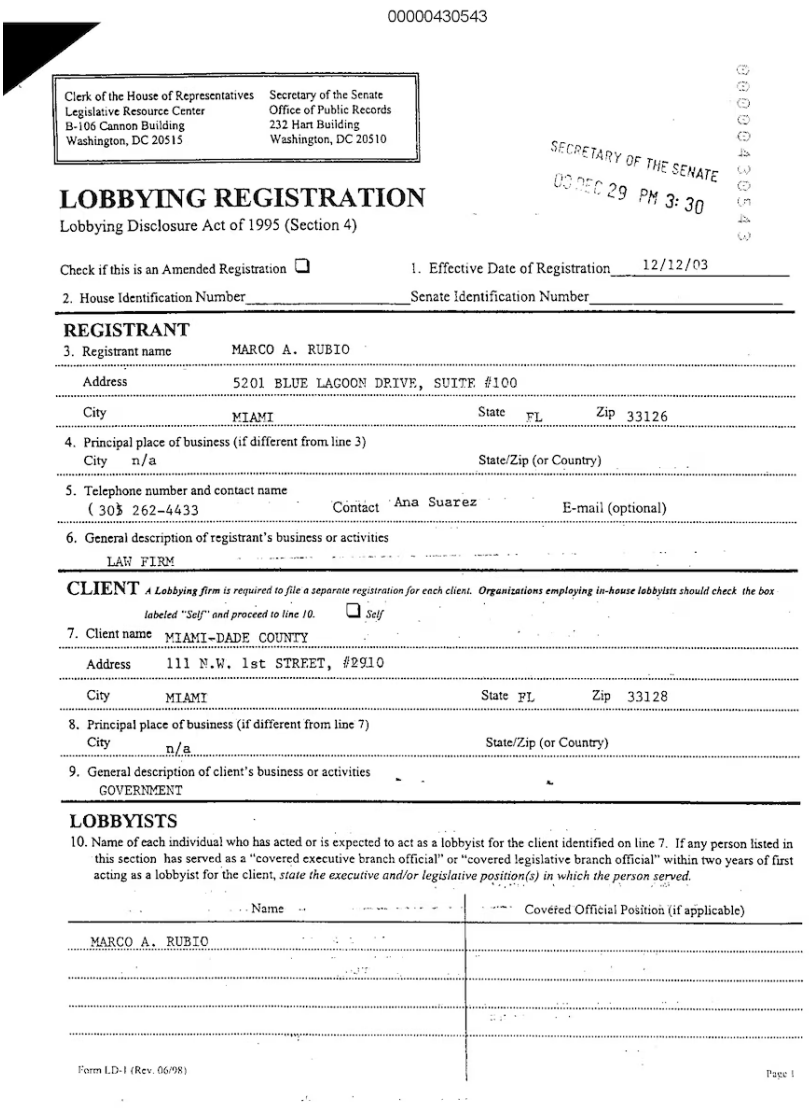
Rubio Is Known To Have Dramatically Increased His Income While Serving In The Florida House And Concurrently Working For "The Powerhouse Lobbying Firm Of Broad And Cassell." "But it was only after getting into politics that Mr. Rubio really started making big money—and he made it very quickly, with the help of a few intimate companions—especially after taking over as Florida House majority leader and whip in early 2003. In fact, his income nearly tripled during the two years—from $122,000 to $330,000, based on financial disclosure forms—and spiked again in 2008, which may be tied to the fact that he became Florida House speaker in November 2006. Mr. Rubio was able to cash in in spectacular fashion because Florida's preposterously flaccid political rules allow politicians to simultaneously hold public office and work as "consultants" to major law and lobbying firms—much like the arrangement that recently landed Sheldon Silver in prison in New York. That means that they technically can't "lobby" but do it anyway and call it "consulting." So, for example, when Mr. Rubio became House majority leader in 2003 he went to work for the powerhouse lobbying firm of Broad and Cassell, which is precisely the point where disclosure forms reveal a giant spike in his income." (Observer, 1/18/16)

- **"The Bulk Of His Private-Sector Income During His Tallahassee Years Came From His Employment At Broad And Cassel, One Of Florida's Top Law And Lobbying Firms, Which Hired Rubio At $300,000 A Year In 2004, Months After He Secured The Support From His House Colleagues To Be In Line For The Speakership."** "The bulk of his private-sector income during his Tallahassee years came from his employment at Broad and Cassel, one of Florida's top law and lobbying firms, which hired Rubio at $300,000 a year in 2004, months after he secured the support from his House colleagues to be in line for the speakership. Rubio declined to be interviewed for this article. A campaign spokesman, Todd Harris, said that Rubio's private-sector income was not unusual for state lawmakers and reflected the unique skill set he offered prospective employers. "Unlike Congress, the Florida legislature is a part-time body, meaning virtually every legislator makes their living from outside employment," Harris said. "When Marco was hired at Broad and Cassel, he was in line to become the first Cuban American House speaker in Florida history," Harris added. "That gave him an enormous profile, along with some very marketable experiences and qualifications." Although the annual session plus year-round committee meet-ings and constituent work often add up to full-time work, many state lawmakers maintain private careers as lawyers or business owners or in other jobs." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)
    - **"Rubio Continued To Work At The Firm For The Two Years He Was Speaker, A Term That Started In November 2006."** (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)
- **Rubio "Was Brought On Board Largely To Help The Firm Diversify Its Mostly White, Male Miami Office."** "Broad and Cassel was known for its real estate, litigation and government relations practice. But Rubio's role, aides said, was non-political. He was prevented by law from lobbying. The firm's offer letter to Rubio, dated June 18, 2004, forbade him to introduce legislation that would affect the firm or its clients. The letter also mandated, in accordance with state laws, that Rubio's salary would not include any money the firm received from lobbying. Instead, the son of Cuban immigrants was brought on board largely to help the firm diversify its mostly white, male Miami office. "Because of my political obligations it was understood that my primary responsibility

would not be to handle individual clients," Rubio said in a written response to questions from The Post. "Instead, my job was to raise the firm's profile in Miami, help attract younger lawyers to build for the future, and opening new doors for the firm, particularly in the Cuban American business community where Broad and Cassel had limited ties." Rubio said that, today, the firm's Miami office is "thriving," adding that, "I am proud of the leadership role I played to help make that happen.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

Previously, Rubio Is Known To Have Worked At The Firm Becker & Poliakoff Earning $93,000 A Year While Serving In The Florida House. "Marco Rubio was 28 when he was elected to the Florida legislature. He was about to become a father and was struggling to balance the financial demands of a growing family with his political aspirations. About a year and a half after taking his seat in Florida's part-time legislature, Rubio got a financial boost, accepting a job at the Miami law firm Becker & Poliakoff for $93,000 a year. Although Rubio was a lawyer by training, his colleagues quickly recognized the advantage of having a charismatic, high-energy politician in the office. "It was as simple as saying, 'Marco, who should I call in this place about this issue?' " recalled Perry Adair, a real estate lawyer in charge of the firm's Miami office, where Rubio worked from 2001 to 2004. "Marco knew the staff everywhere. He had been in politics all his life.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **"During His Time At Becker's Firm, Rubio Registered With The Miami-Dade County Government To Lobby On Behalf Of Real Estate And Other Interests."** "When Rubio first arrived in Tallahassee in 2000, he was employed by Ruden McClosky, a law firm that paid him $72,000 a year, a total that Rubio recalls in his memoir was barely enough to make ends meet. In 2001, Rubio met Alan Becker, a former state legislator building a lobbying and law firm. Becker offered Rubio $93,000 to join his firm. "I didn't hesitate a moment," Rubio wrote in his book, "An American Son." Becker, in an interview, said he hired Rubio to work on zoning and land-use issues. He said he knew that Rubio, focused on the legislature, would have limited time for the firm. "I was paying him accordingly," Becker said. "If he was devoting 100 percent to the law business, he would have been paid more because he was worth it." During his time at Becker's firm, Rubio registered with the Miami-Dade County government to lobby on behalf of real estate and other interests. Democrats later cited this to attack him as a lobbyist, but Rubio has said his county-level work focused on local zoning issues and was not lobbying in the traditional sense." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)



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Secretary of the Senate
Office of Public Records
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LOBBYING REGISTRATION
Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (Section 4)

Check if this is an Amended Registration ☐ 1. Effective Date of Registration 12/12/03

2. House Identification Number _____ Senate Identification Number _____

REGISTRANT

3. Registrant name MARCO A. RUBIO

Address 5201 BLUE LAGOON DRIVE, SUITE #100

City MIAMI State FL Zip 33126

4. Principal place of business (if different from line 3)
City n/a State/Zip (or Country)

5. Telephone number and contact name
(305 262-4433 Contact Ana Suarez E-mail (optional)

6. General description of registrant's business or activities
LAW FIRM

CLIENT *A Lobbying firm is required to file a separate registration for each client. Organizations employing in-house lobbyists should check the box labeled "Self" and proceed to line 10.* ☐ *Self*

7. Client name MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Address 111 N.W. 1st STREET, #2910

City MIAMI State FL Zip 33128

8. Principal place of business (if different from line 7)
City n/a State/Zip (or Country)

9. General description of client's business or activities
GOVERNMENT

LOBBYISTS

10. Name of each individual who has acted or is expected to act as a lobbyist for the client identified on line 7. If any person listed in this section has served as a "covered executive branch official" or "covered legislative branch official" within two years of first acting as a lobbyist for the client, *state the executive and/or legislative position(s) in which the person served.*

Name	Covered Official Position (if applicable)
MARCO A. RUBIO	

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(*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **"In December 2003, Rubio Was Registered As A Federal Lobbyist For Becker & Poliakoff In Washington, According To Records Maintained By The U.S. House And Senate And Never Previously Reported."** "In December 2003, Rubio was registered as a federal lobbyist for Becker & Poliakoff in Washington, according to records maintained by the U.S. House and Senate and never previously reported. The registration form, which includes Rubio's signature, declares that he would concentrate on "budget appropriations and health care.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)
    - **"Firm Officials Said It Had Been An Error, And The Firm Sent A Letter In 2005 Asking The Senate To Revoke The Registration."** "Harris said that Rubio could not recall filling out the registration form and that he did not lobby. Firm officials said it had been an error, and the firm sent a letter in 2005 asking the Senate to revoke the registration. At the time that Rubio's form was filed, Becker & Poliakoff had formed a joint venture with a Washington lobbying firm hired by Miami-Dade County to help find federal funding for Miami's public hospitals. As

part of his work for the Becker firm, Rubio helped Jonathan Slade, one of the Washington lobbyists, learn about the county's federal needs, Slade said. Rubio arranged conference calls between Slade and county officials to discuss hospital issues, Slade said. Rubio was usually on the line for the calls, Slade added, but did not participate in the conversations. Slade said that he was not aware that Rubio did any federal lobbying, and that he was surprised to learn Rubio had once registered." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **Rubio Has Noted That He Was "Indebted" To Becker & Poliakoff's Name Partner For Having Offered Him A Job When He Was In "Difficult Financial Straits."** "By 2003, Rubio had lined up the commitments he needed from his GOP House colleagues to secure his place in line to assume the speaker's gavel. Soon thereafter, he began to receive other high-income offers. During a 2004 dinner with Rubio and his wife at Chef Allen's, a popular restaurant north of Miami, Becker persuaded him to stay by offering him a 50 percent raise. It was less than one of the competing offers, but enough to keep Rubio, at least for a while. But when Broad and Cassel offered to more than double his salary, Rubio was compelled to listen. Becker told Rubio that he would be "out of his mind" to say no. In his memoir, Rubio described himself as "torn." "I had been in difficult financial straits when Alan Becker had offered me a job, and I was indebted to him," Rubio wrote. "But I couldn't afford to refuse the financial security the Broad and Cassel offer would provide." Rubio described his circumstances at the time: 33 years old and the sole earner in his household." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

Additionally, While Serving As Speaker, Rubio's "Connections Landed Him A Nonadvertised, Paid Teaching Job At Florida International University." "Rubio left office in 2008 with no sign of letting up. He converted 100 Ideas into a political committee. His connections landed him a nonadvertised, paid teaching job at Florida International University, and he became a political commentator for Univision, which would keep him in the public eye. That summer he began to quietly work out scenarios for his next office, a complicated mix that included a run for state Senate or a statewide office in 2010, a challenge to U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson in 2012 or a run for governor in 2014. Then came the unexpected." (*Miami Herald*, 10/9/10)

- **"In 2008, During His Final Months As Speaker, Rubio's Income Rose Yet Again — This Time The Result Of A New Teaching Job At Florida International University, A Large State School In Miami. The Part-Time Position Paid Rubio $69,000 A Year."** (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

- **"The Offer Came As FIU Slashed 38 Faculty Jobs, Shut Six Labs, And Axed 23 Degrees Because Of A $32 Million Shortfall. Then It Was Disclosed That As Speaker, Rubio Had Helped Green-Light A $15 Million Hurricane Research Center As Well As $11 Million For A Medical School."** "It was a heartfelt speech. But Rubio couldn't avoid one last bit of shady business on his way out of Tally. Weeks after the session, Florida International University offered him a $69,000-a-year gig teaching a few political science classes. The offer came as FIU slashed 38 faculty jobs, shut six labs, and axed 23 degrees because of a $32 million shortfall. Then it was disclosed that as speaker, Rubio had helped green-light a $15 million hurricane research center as well as $11 million for a medical school." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **"When Mr. Rubio Left State Government, Determined To Shore Up His Finances Before Running For The United States Senate, He Landed A Teaching Job At Florida International University, Agreeing To Raise Much Of His Salary Through Private Donations. Mr. Braman Gave $100,000, According To Records He Shared With The New York Times."** "Usually, Mr. Rubio said at a news conference at the time, he would have laughed off such an eye-popping pitch. "But when Norman Braman brings it to you," Mr. Rubio said, "you take it seriously." Later that year, when Mr. Rubio left state government, determined to shore up his finances before running for the United States Senate, he landed a teaching job at Florida International University, agreeing to raise much of his salary through private donations. Mr. Braman gave $100,000, according to records he shared with The New York Times. Dario Moreno, who oversaw the university center where Mr. Rubio worked and who taught classes with him, confirmed that Mr. Rubio had raised the money from Mr. Braman." (*The New York Times*, 5/9/15)

Shortly After Leaving The Speakership, Rubio "And A Former Aide Signed Consulting Contracts Worth $102,000 With Jackson Hospital Systems And $96,000 With Miami Children's Hospital"; He Had "Recently Championed" Both Systems As A Lawmaker. "Rubio's private income got another boost shortly after he ended his two-year stint as speaker and left state office — signing on as a consultant for public hospitals he had recently championed as a lawmaker. Rubio and a former aide signed consulting contracts worth $102,000 with Jackson Hospital Systems and $96,000 with Miami Children's Hospital, according to Senate disclosure forms and interviews with Rubio aides. Then came the 2010 campaign, when Rubio secured his spot as a national Republican star. Fame followed, as did lucrative book deals — earning him at least $1.2 million, according to financial disclosure forms — and a chance to become president." (*Washington Post*, 6/29/15)

Ethics – Additional Issues

Controversy – Potential Extramarital Affair (Unverified)

Former Florida Republican Party Chair Jim Greer Claimed Emails Acquired By An Opposition Researcher Showed "An Indication That Rubio Had An Affair" With "A Woman Who Had Worked In His Legislative Office When He Was Speaker Of The House." "A book about Greer called The Chairman: The Rise and Betrayal of Jim Greer has some juicy anecdotes about Mr. Rubio and David Rivera, Mr. Rubio's one-time best friend and roommate as well as a noted womanizer and former Florida State House member and federal congressman. (A number of other top officials at the U.S. Century Bank were major political supporters of Mr. Rubio's.) A passage from the book reads: "There was an indication that Rubio had an affair," said Greer. A woman who had worked in his legislative office when he was Speaker of the House abruptly left and got a job at Florida International University as a part-time professor. Emails she had sent him through her college account had become public record. Our opposition research specialist said the emails included things like, "I have to talk to you right now. I can't take this anymore. Why aren't you returning my calls?" To an oppositional researcher the Crist campaign had hired, it appeared there had been a close relationship between the two and that Rubio had broken it off.'" (Observer, 1/18/16)

Controversial Associations – David Rivera

David Rivera Is Known To Have Been One Of Rubio's "Closest Friends And Allies." "Rubio says he has no idea what he'll do in 2016—run for re-election, "run for something else" or return to the private sector. Some insiders remain dubious that he'll seek the "something else" route so early in his career. He's had some awkward personal-finance issues. One of his closest friends and allies, former Congressman David Rivera, is embroiled in a corruption scandal. And his political mentor, Jeb Bush, might seek the White House himself. Their friends assume Rubio would defer in that case, though it was curious that when I asked him whether he had discussed his immigration work with Bush, who has a book coming out on the subject, he said he sent a text message." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

- **"Often By His Side Was Rivera, Whom Rubio Credits In His Memoir As "Among My Closest Friends And Advisers.'"** "Often by his side was Rivera, whom Rubio credits in his memoir as "among my closest friends and advisers." And for many years, the two men, who met as volunteers on the 1992 Diaz-Balart campaign, seemed to rise together arm-in-arm. Rivera brought Rubio on to Bob Dole's 1996 presidential campaign, and Rubio later helped Rivera win election to the Florida House in 2002; the two men worked hand-in-glove at the state level, with Rivera playing a mix of Rubio's Falstaff—a fun, party guy who pushed the limits—and his political enforcer. The two even shared a house in Tallahassee—and later one in Washington. "I saw them as a bad boy-good boy team," says Christian Ulvert, who managed Gelber's campaign for attorney general. "David was 100 percent bad boy, and Marco Rubio seemed like his opposite." When Rubio was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2010, Rivera won a congressional seat. But Rivera's career ended abruptly after he was implicated in a "ringer" scandal—financing a fake candidate to run against his opponent to siphon off votes. Amid a raft of alleged campaign infractions, Melanie Sloan, executive director of the nonpartisan Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, declaimed that "Rivera might very well be the most corrupt member of Congress.'" (*Politico*, 11/2015)

- **David Rivera Is "Arguably One Of The Most Corrupt Members Of Congress In Florida's Colorful History."** "Mr. Rubio has a long track record of corruption that his political enemies will have a simple time exploiting. Most problematically, the FBI has for years been investigating David Rivera, one of Mr. Rubio's best friends and long-time political allies, and arguably one of the most corrupt members of congress in Florida's colorful history." (Observer, 2/25/16)

"Rubio Owes A Measure Of His Early Success In Politics To Rivera. Rivera Advised And Stumped For Rubio In His First Campaign For The State House In 2000. Once Elected, Rubio Repaid The Favor And Helped Rivera Win A State House Seat In 2002. The Following Year, Rivera Was Instrumental In Helping Rubio Collect Pledge Cards From Fellow Republicans To Eventually Become The First Cuban-American Speaker Of The Florida House." "Rubio owes a measure of his early success in politics to Rivera. Rivera advised and stumped for Rubio in his first campaign for the state House in 2000. Once elected, Rubio repaid the favor and helped Rivera win a state House seat in 2002. The following year, Rivera was instrumental in helping Rubio collect pledge cards from fellow Republicans to eventually become the first Cuban-American speaker of the Florida House. A relentless political

operative, Rivera popped up in seemingly every corner of the state throughout the year to pressure, cajole and win over GOP House members to support Rubio for speaker. As the two climbed the rungs of power together in the Florida House, they decided to buy the home at 1484 Bent Willow Drive in the Timber Lakes subdivision for $135,000. The March 2, 2005, deed was executed about a week before the 60-day lawmaking session began that year. When Rubio was formally voted speaker, he was nominated by Rivera, who served as chairman of the Florida House Rules Committee during Rubio's speakership in 2007 and 2008. The post gave Rivera life-and-death power over much of the legislation in the House." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **"In the Capitol, Rubio gave Rivera the House clerk's office, which was located just off the chamber floor, and knocked down a wall so they could have direct access to each other. He made Rivera the chairman of the Rules Committee, a powerful post that gave him control over which bills made it to the House floor for a vote."** "While Rubio was all smiles and eager to win friends, his top advisers had grown up in the brass-knuckled world of Miami politics. "Charming miscreants," Gelber says, describing them as a band of "Boris-and-Natasha-type figures," a reference to the cunning spies in the Rocky and Bullwinkle cartoons. No one was closer to Rubio than David Rivera, a representative from Miami who had managed his speakership campaign. (Rivera did not respond to a request for comment.) The two formed a brotherly bond in the trenches of Miami elections, and they lived together during legislative sessions in a modest, three-bedroom home they bought in a Tallahassee subdivision. In the Capitol, Rubio gave Rivera the House clerk's office, which was located just off the chamber floor, and knocked down a wall so they could have direct access to each other. He made Rivera the chairman of the Rules Committee, a powerful post that gave him control over which bills made it to the House floor for a vote. Rubio's relationship with Rivera was emblematic of the new speaker's general style: a tendency to delegate many of the toughest parts of politics. Bob Levy, a longtime lobbyist, says he rarely visited Rubio when he wanted something for his clients. It was Rivera who took the meetings. "When you talked to David, you knew you were talking to Marco," Levy told me. "Rivera got things done," Gelber says, "sort of like a fighter pilot might plow the horizon for the guys behind himwith a similar amount of damage, I might add." "There were times when David did things that Marco wouldn't necessarily sanction, but he considered that David's choiceas long as they didn't involve Marco directly," Jill Chamberlin, Rubio's former press secretary, told me." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Rubio Is Also Known To Have Owned A House With Rivera That Was Later Subjected To Foreclosure Proceedings; The House, Purchased In 2005, Was Put Up For Sale In 2015. "The brick-fronted tract house with a satellite dish and a yellow fire hydrant in front looks like many middle-class homes in Florida's capital, except for the two names on the deed. Marco Rubio: U.S. senator and would-be presidential candidate. David Rivera: Scandal-plagued former congressman under investigation in a federal campaign-finance probe. In many ways, it has been a house of horrors for Rubio, a financial and political liability heading into the 2016 election. While he and Rivera were state legislators, they paid way too much for it in 2005, only to see foreclosure proceedings embarrassingly initiated against them during Rubio's 2010 Senate race. At another point, a tropical storm flooded the entire neighborhood so badly that neighbors used canoes to get around. Now, the three-bedroom property stands as a stubborn symbol of both a

politically problematic friendship and lingering questions about Rubio's personal finances, which dogged him on the campaign trail in 2010 and may do so again. The friendship has frayed in recent years, friends say, as the fortunes of Rubio, 43, and Rivera, 49, have diverged. Last week, they put the 1,228-square-foot house up for sale. The list price is $125,000 — $10,000 less than what the two men paid for it a decade ago. But chances are the home won't sell before April, when Rubio says he'll decide whether to seek the presidency. Rubio's critics are waiting to make hay of any revelations that may come of the federal investigation of Rivera and to point to their status as roommates during the years when Rivera allegedly engaged in illegal campaign activities. "This will be an issue," declared Craig Smith, a top adviser for the Ready for Hillary super PAC, echoing the views of many supporters and detractors alike. "When you run for president, voters and the press have an insatiable appetite for people's histories, what they've done, who they are. … It raises questions about his judgment, about the kind of people he would bring with him into government, into a campaign.'" (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **Rubio, A Friend Of Rivera's Since 1992, "Bought The Tallahassee Home For Lodging When The Two Up-And-Coming Legislators Served Together In The Florida House."** "Rubio declined to comment for this story or about his relationship with Rivera, with whom he bought the Tallahassee home for lodging when the two up-and-coming legislators served together in the Florida House. A Rubio spokesman and Rivera both denied that the sale of the house had any political motivations. The home's tenant since 2010 recently moved out, and they've been trying to sell the house, unsuccessfully, for years. Asked about the status of Rubio's relationship with Rivera, which dates to 1992, when both men worked for the congressional campaign of Lincoln Diaz-Balart, spokesman Alex Burgos said in a written statement: "David Rivera is an old friend of Senator Rubio's. His hope is that Mr. Rivera can put his recent troubles behind him and go on with his life." But interviews with more than a dozen friends and political insiders who have known the two for years suggest that the story is more complicated, and that Rubio is stuck between his sense of loyalty to his friend and his need to move on with his life and political career. Three people close to Rubio say he has referred to Rivera on multiple occasions as "Nixonian." And yet others describe a brotherly closeness that became strained only as Rivera weathered state and federal investigations into his finances, a related state ethics case that recently resulted in a proposed $58,000 fine, and the more serious campaign-finance scandal that erupted in 2012. At the time, Rubio and Rivera shared a rental home in Washington for the two years they both served in Congress. "Marco wants little to do with David, and you can't blame him — who would want that guy by their side as they're running for president?" said Ana Alliegro, Rivera's former girlfriend, who pleaded guilty last year to campaign-finance violations and making false statements in the most recent federal case involving Rivera. She recently gave grand-jury testimony against Rivera." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

Rubio Supported Rivera's 2012 Reelection Campaign, Which Was Marred By Later Allegations Of Impropriety. "Alliegro confirmed she told prosecutors that Rivera was the source of about $81,000 in unreported cash that was used to fund the 2012 campaign of a political unknown who was running in the Democratic primary against Joe Garcia, a formidable contender preparing to square off against the Republican Rivera in the general election. Garcia prevailed against the candidate to whom Rivera allegedly funneled the money, Justin Sternad,

who later pleaded guilty to federal charges of breaking campaign finance laws and filing false campaign reports. That November, Garcia beat Rivera. Days before the election, Rubio recorded a robocall touting Rivera. Rubio also, however, made similar calls for other Republican candidates. In open court and at the urging of a judge, a federal prosecutor has twice labeled Rivera as an alleged criminal conspirator in the case. But Rivera doesn't just deny wrongdoing — he claims he's not the subject of a probe." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **Rubio Decided To Support Rivera's 2012 Reelection Despite Rivera Having Recently Been Investigated By Federal And State Authorities For Ethics And Legal Violations.** "In Rivera's ethics case, investigators with the Florida Commission on Ethics and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement testified before an administrative law judge at a hearing that records showed Rivera was essentially living off political committee funds and failing to disclose the money as income. Rivera also arranged a contract worth $1 million between a Miami dog track and a company owned by his mother to lead a 2008 election campaign to legalize slot machine gambling in Miami-Dade County. Rivera later acknowledged accepting at least $132,000 as part of the arrangement. But he didn't list the money on his state financial disclosure forms. At the time, Rivera told reporters he wasn't making "a penny" off the gambling referendum. And as Rivera was getting money from the company that became Magic City Casino in 2008, Rubio opposed expanding gambling while serving as House speaker. Later, after the casino deal came to light, Rivera claimed in his ethics case defense that the gambling money was a "contingent liability loan" that wasn't reportable "income." The Internal Revenue Service, which examined the payments and his finances along with the FBI, opted not to charge him after interviewing a handful of witnesses. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement also examined his finances and drafted a 52-count complaint. But the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office decided in late 2011 not to charge Rivera because of ambiguities in the state's ethics laws and, in some matters, the statute of limitations. Throughout the investigations, Rivera denied to reporters that he was the subject of the probes — even while a defense lawyer was negotiating with investigators on his behalf." (*Politico*, 3/16/15)

- **In 2012, Rubio Defended Sticking Up For Rivera, Noting "Maybe It's Acceptable [In Washington]—It Isn't To Me—To Turn Your Back On Friends When They're Going Through A Difficult Time, No Matter, You Know, What They May Have Done Or Not Done."** "Rivera, for his part, has denied any wrongdoing and has not been charged, though the investigation is ongoing. Earlier this year, he was ordered to pay nearly $60,000 to settle an unrelated ethics complaint stemming from his time as a legislator. Rubio has consistently stood by Rivera, saying, "He's a friend, and I'm going to give him the benefit of the doubt." Pressed by Fox News in 2012 over the relationship, the senator dug in his heels over the friendship, explaining, "Maybe it's acceptable [in Washington]—it isn't to me—to turn your back on friends when they're going through a difficult time, no matter, you know, what they may have done or not done.'" (*Politico*, 11/2015)

In May 2022, "Former Republican Congressman David Rivera Has Gone To A Federal Appeals Court After Being Hit With A $456,000 Fine In A Case Involving Allegations He Secretly Funneled Money To Try To Undermine A Democratic Rival"; "The Long-

Running Case Stems From Rivera's 2012 Campaign For Re-Election To Congress." "Former Republican Congressman David Rivera has gone to a federal appeals court after being hit with a $456,000 fine in a case involving allegations he secretly funneled money to try to undermine a Democratic rival. Rivera, of Miami, filed a notice last week that is a first step in asking the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to take up the case. The move came after U.S. District Judge Marcia Cooke sided with the Federal Election Commission and ordered the $456,000 fine. The long-running case stems from Rivera's 2012 campaign for re-election to Congress. Rivera faced a challenge from Democrat Joe Garcia and was alleged to have provided money to help Justin Sternad, a candidate in the Democratic primary. Garcia ultimately won the primary and defeated Rivera. The Federal Election Commission alleged that Rivera, who also is a former member of the Florida House, violated a law that bars contributions made in the names of other people. "The FEC alleges that during the Democratic primary, Rivera executed a scheme to secretly provide funds to Sternad's campaign to weaken Garcia, who was likely to be Rivera's general election opponent," Cooke wrote in a Feb. 23 summary judgment in favor of the federal agency. "In April 2012, Rivera initiated the scheme when he met with his associate, Ana Sol Alliegro and directed her to approach Sternad with an offer to provide financial support to his primary campaign. Alliegro did so, and Sternad accepted the offer. At Rivera's supposed direction, Alliegro then spent the next few months acting as an intermediary, transmitting funds to Sternad, the Sternad (political) committee and the vendors providing services to that committee." In granting summary judgment, Cooke refuted Rivera's arguments that testimony by Alliegro should be rejected. The South Florida federal judge pointed, in part, to testimony from other people, including Sternad." (CBS News, 5/5/22)

In December 2022, Rivera Was Arrested "By Federal Authorities In Connection With An Ongoing Probe Into His Work With Venezuela's Authoritarian Regime." "Former Florida Rep. David Rivera, who had successfully outflanked a series of investigations during his lengthy political and consulting career, was arrested Monday by federal authorities in connection with an ongoing probe into his work with Venezuela's authoritarian regime. Rivera, who represented a Miami-area district from 2011 to 2013, was detained in Georgia on Wednesday in connection with a Miami grand jury indictment issued last month. His arrest was first reported by The Associated Press." (*Politico*, 12/5/22)

- **"According To The Indictment Unsealed On Monday Night, Rivera And His Former Political Consultant, Esther Nuhfer, Are Facing Charges Of Conspiring Against The U.S., Failing To Register As Foreign Agents And Engaging In Illegal Financial Transactions Including Money Laundering."** "According to the indictment unsealed on Monday night, Rivera and his former political consultant, Esther Nuhfer, are facing charges of conspiring against the U.S., failing to register as foreign agents and engaging in illegal financial transactions including money laundering. "It was the purpose of the conspiracy for the defendants to unlawfully enrich themselves by engaging in political activities in the United States on behalf of the government of Venezuela, and by representing the interests of the government of Venezuela before officials of the of the United States government and in an effort to influence United States foreign policy," states the 34-page indictment. Before his brief stint in Congress, Rivera served as powerful budget chief while in the Legislature. He was an ally of Sen. Marco Rubio (R-

Fla.), who once shared a house with him in Tallahassee. Rivera maintained his ties with various GOP officials after he left office and attended the recent one-day session where the Florida Legislature picked new leaders. Rivera's defense attorney Simon Ferro did not return a call requesting comment." (*Politico*, 12/5/22)

- **"Rivera Had Previously Come Under Criticism For Failing To Register As A Foreign Agent Despite Working For Petróleos De Venezuela, S.A., Venezuela's State-Owned Oil Company. That Company Hired Interamerican Consulting, Rivera's Firm, To Provide Consulting Services To The Country's State-Owned Oil Company."** "Rivera had previously come under criticism for failing to register as a foreign agent despite working for Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A., Venezuela's state-owned oil company. That company hired Interamerican Consulting, Rivera's firm, to provide consulting services to the country's state-owned oil company. Any work Rivera did for the Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. would require him to register as a foreign agent. Petróleos de Venezuela's subsidiary company in the U.S., however, sued Rivera, claiming he did no substantial work and sought to recover $15 million it paid to his firm. The indictment states that beginning in 2017 — shortly after former President Donald Trump took office — Rivera and Nuhfer were sought out to help lobby politicians on behalf of Venezuela and gain political support to normalize relations between the U.S. and the country led by strongman Nicolas Maduro. As part of the effort to curry favor on behalf of Venezuela, the indictment references meetings that were arranged with a U.S. congressman from Texas as well as a U.S. senator from Florida. Previous reports have already identified the congressman as former Rep. Pete Sessions. The indictment does not state the name of the senator, but Rubio played a pivotal role in advising the Trump administration over its dealings with Latin American countries." (*Politico*, 12/5/22)

In December 2022, "Sen. Marco Rubio Acknowledged On Tuesday Through A Spokesperson That He Met With Indicted Ex-Rep. David Rivera To Discuss A Potential Deal To Normalize Relations Between The United States And Venezuela — But Didn't Know That His One-Time Friend And Long-Time Political Ally Was Working On Behalf Of Strongman Nicolás Maduro." "Sen. Marco Rubio acknowledged on Tuesday through a spokesperson that he met with indicted ex-Rep. David Rivera to discuss a potential deal to normalize relations between the United States and Venezuela — but didn't know that his one-time friend and long-time political ally was working on behalf of strongman Nicolás Maduro. Rubio's dealings with Rivera emerged Monday night after federal authorities arrested and charged the former Miami lawmaker with eight criminal counts, including money laundering, conspiracy and failing to register as a foreign agent for work allegedly connected to the Maduro regime. An unsealed indictment states that Rivera and an unnamed U.S. senator from Florida met in July 2017 in Washington to discuss a possible deal with Maduro in which the Venezuelan leader would agree to "hold free and fair elections in Venezuela." The senator was not identified by name, but Rivera and Rubio have known each other for years and once owned a house together in Tallahassee. Rivera and the senator first met to discuss Venezuela on July 9, 2017 at a private residence in D.C., according to the indictment The pair gathered three days later at a Washington hotel with several others, including an unidentified Venezuelan politician who attended the meeting by telephone, according to the indictment. Rubio has been a harsh critic of Venezuela and Maduro and was seen as influential in pressing the Trump administration to keep

sanctions in place. Federal authorities have not accused Rubio of any wrongdoing and he was not identified by name in the indictment. In an emailed statement, however, a spokesperson for Rubio said that "during a July 2017 meeting, Mr. Rivera told Senator Rubio that close Maduro associate Raul Gorrín wanted to personally deliver a letter from the dictator to the President outlining an agreement to hold free and fair elections and exit power. A few days later Gorrin came to a brief meeting in Washington, but produced no such letter and failed to even mention the possibility of any such deal.'" (*Politico*, 12/6/22)

Controversial Associations – Alan Mendelsohn And Joel Steinger (Mutual Benefits Corp. Ponzi Scheme)

Rubio Has Been Linked To Alan Mendelsohn, a GOP lobbyist and fundraiser, Who Donated $50,000 To Rubio's Campaign In 2003; Mendelsohn Had Raised $1.5 Million From Businessman Joel Steinger, Founder And CEO Of Mutual Benefits Corp. – A $1.2 Billion Ponzi Scheme That Targeted Elderly South Florida Retirees And Helped Launder South American Drug Cartel Money. "Mr. Rivera and Mr. Rubio were also involved in another dubious deal in the mid-2000s that is breathtakingly brazen even by Florida's promiscuous standards and which was partially unraveled over many years by a joint FBI/DEA task force. One of the key figures in the scam was Alan Mendelsohn, a GOP lobbyist and fundraiser who raised about $2 million that he funneled to numerous Florida politicians or used for his personal benefit, according to his subsequent indictment. Of that amount about $1.5 million came from a crooked businessman named Joel Steinger. Steinger was the founder and CEO of a private company called Mutual Benefits Corp., through which he pulled off a $1.2 billion Ponzi scheme that targeted elderly South Florida retirees and members of the state's gay community. Mutual Benefits Corp. also helped a South American drug cartel launder money, evidence compiled by a the FBI/DEA task force showed. Mendelsohn funneled money to politicians through various political entities, including a political committee he set up called The Ophthalmology PAC. Steinger gave him money in the hopes of winning political support for a bill that would exempt Mutual Benefits Corp. from state regulation. Mendelsohn also got money to pass along to politicians from a few other dubious players, including a credit counseling firm and gambling companies. Mr. Rubio and Mr. Rivera each got $50,000, easily ranking them among the biggest recipients of Ophthalmology PAC cash. Mr. Rubio received his payout from Mendelsohn in December of 2003 through a PAC he set up called Floridians for Conservative Leadership. The Ophthalmology PAC was by far the biggest donor to Floridians for Conservative Leadership. Mr. Rubio used the latter to pay for, among other things, courier services performed by his wife, sister and nephews; to cover the costs of meals and lodging that were allegedly campaign-related; and to pay a close friend and lobbyist who raised money for him for what was described as political consulting work." (Observer, 2/25/16)

- **"In April Of 2004, Both Mr. Rubio And Mr. Rivera Voted For Legislation — Which Mendelsohn Aggressively Lobbied For — That Exempted Steinger's Mutual Benefits Corp. From Regulation. In May Of 2004, The SEC Ordered The Emergency Shutdown Of Steinger's Firm."** (Observer, 2/25/16)
    - **Steinger "Turned For Help To Mendelsohn And Sent Him Money To Buy Elected Republicans" In Order To Help Protect His Ponzi Scheme From**

Regulation. "To remedy the situation, he created a variety of corporate and political entities to donate money to every Democrat in the state legislature. In the last four months of 2002, Steinger-linked entities sent checks totaling $550,000 to the state Democratic Party and $200,000 to the Democratic National Committee. (Steve Geller, a Democratic senator who was influential on insurance issues, "received $5,000 from Mutual Benefits-related sources," the Sun-Sentinel reported back in a 2009 summary of the whole affair.) This had the desired effect, and Democrats came together to write a piece of legislation in 2003 that exempted Viaticals from state regulation. Since Steinger's Mutual Benefits Corp. was a private insurance and investment company, the SEC had no ability to regulate him either. So this legislation would leave Mutual Benefits entirely regulation-free. Tragically for Steinger, the Democrats didn't have the political muscle to get the bill passed. So he turned for help to Mendelsohn and sent him money to buy elected Republicans. The state Republican Party received $25,000 from Steinger-linked entities in the year after the vote. A PAC associated with Kim Berfield, then Republican chairwoman of the House insurance committee got $10,000 and a PAC for future Senate leader Ken Pruitt received $2,500. All told, Mendelsohn, his family and his major political committee contributed at least $708,000 to more than 275 legislators, legislative candidates and state causes, according to the The Tampa Bay Times. Mendelsohn's average contribution, then, was just $2,574.55." (Observer, 2/25/16)

- **"That's Why The $50,000 Received By Mr. Rubio From The Ophthalmology PAC — One Of Mendelsohn's Main Vehicles To Accomplish Steinger's Desires — Stands Out So Much, Especially Since He Got The Cash Just A Few Months Before He Voted To Exempt Mutual Benefits Corp. From Regulation. The Vote Was Held In April 2004 — Just A Month, As It Turned Out, Before The SEC Shut Down Mutual Benefits Corp. The Steinger/Mendelsohn Lobbying Strategy Was So Effective That Only One House Member And One Senator Opposed The Bill."** "That's why the $50,000 received by Mr. Rubio from The Ophthalmology PAC — one of Mendelsohn's main vehicles to accomplish Steinger's desires — stands out so much, especially since he got the cash just a few months before he voted to exempt Mutual Benefits Corp. from regulation. The vote was held in April 2004 — just a month, as it turned out, before the SEC shut down Mutual Benefits Corp. The Steinger/Mendelsohn lobbying strategy was so effective that only one house member and one senator opposed the bill. The senator, Democrat Skip Campbell, later said that legislators overwhelmingly voted for the bill for one reason only: political contributions. "It was clear to me that this was a big Ponzi scheme and would bite a lot of people," he told the Sun-Sentinel. But in the aftermath of the vote, Steinger, Mendelsohn, Mr. Rubio and almost the entire Florida congress were thrilled with the outcome. It looked like a win-win for them all." (Observer, 2/25/16)

- **"In 2014, Steinger Was Sentenced To Twenty Years In Prison. "Mr. Steinger, I Could Very Easily Sentence You To 50 Years As A Very Justifiable Sentence And Never Lose A Moment's Sleep," Judge Robert Scola Said At The Time. (Steve**

Haguel, Steinger's Lawyer, Declined Comment Other Than To Say That He Had Appealed The Verdict.)" (Observer, 2/25/16)

- **Steinger Had Previously Been Fined And Sanctioned By Federal Authorities nd Is Known To Have Connections To The Mob.** "In the 1980s, Joel Steinger and several relatives ran Tara Securities Group, a boiler room that ripped off a boatload of naive investors. (Martin Scorcese's film The Wolf of Wall Street perfectly captures the boiler room, a term used to describe a fraud by which a scammer rents an impressive-looking office, lines up employees to cold call potential investors, and suckers them into putting their savings into financial schemes promising big returns that never materialize.) The Securities and Exchange Commission shut down Tara Securities Group, banned Steinger from commodities trading and, hit him with a paltry civil fine of $30,000. Steinger had a sleazy past even before Tara Securities. Back in 1979, the Commodities Futures Trading Commission barred him from acting as a commodity trading professional for his role in another scam that involved a company called Crown Colony Commodity Options Ltd., according to his indictment and several news accounts. Steinger's colorful career, convictions and mob connections, can be reviewed in this article. But Steinger still had to make a living so in 1994 he started a new private company, Mutual Benefits Corp., which was in the Viaticals business. That's the term — derived from a Latin word meaning "provisions for a long journey" — for the practice of buying life insurance policies at a steeply discounted price from desperate people who are about to die. Steiner quickly figured out that a great place to find dying people who would sell their life insurance policies cheap was the AIDS-plagued gay community in South Florida. So he hooked up with some clinics and doctors and used them to pitch terminally ill HIV patients who were desperate for quick money and would sell their life insurance policies for pennies on the dollar. To ratchet up profits even more Steinger retained a doctor, Clark Mitchell, to diagnose people as being terminally ill when they were in fact perfectly healthy. Of course, the investors in Mutual Benefits Corp. started getting angry when people who sold the firm their life insurance policies didn't die because that meant they didn't get the huge returns Steinger promised them (up to 72 percent, according to this story). Investors complained to the Florida Attorney General, who began looking into the situation, which alarmed Steinger." (Observer, 2/25/16)

Rubio Continued To Be Associated With Mendelsohn, Who Helped Kick Off Rubio's Senate Campaign, Through 2009; "In 2011 Mendelsohn Was Sentenced To Three Years In Prison For Using "His Political Connections To Assist Clients In Obtaining And Defeating Legislation," According To His Indictment." "As late as 2009, Mendelsohn was one of Mr. Rubio's leading fundraisers and that year hosted an event at his home to kick off Mr. Rubio's run for a U.S. Senate seat. That May the Broward Palm Beach New Times reported that Mendelsohn had resigned from his post as treasurer of yet another PAC he had created amid "rampant speculation" about the extent of his ties to Steinger. Mr. Rubio "doesn't seem very concerned about any political fallout that may come as more facts emerge about Mr. Mendelsohn in the Steinger case," the newspaper reported. "Either Rubio knows something the rest of us don't or he doesn't mind risking his reputation for some serious campaign dough." In 2011 Mendelsohn was sentenced to three years in prison for using "his political connections to assist clients in obtaining and defeating legislation," according to his indictment. During his sentencing, Judge William

Zloch, said the disgraced lobbyist's misconduct was like a "cancer" with "tentacles" that hindered good government across the state, according to the Tampa Bay Times. (Mendelsohn's lawyer, Alvin Entin, declined comment.)" (Observer, 2/25/16)

Controversial Associations – Mark Cereceda

In 2007, Rubio Netted A $205,000 Profit On A Florida Home He Sold To Nora Cereceda, Whose Son Mark Cereceda Was A Chiropractor With A Lengthy Criminal Record; "Shortly After Mr. Rubio Sold The House, He Did A 180-Degree Rotation On A Key Insurance Bill For Which Dr. Cereceda Had Been Lobbying." "Meanwhile, Mr. Rubio was making more money on two highly suspicious real estate deals. In the first, Mr. Rubio had a little help from Mark Cereceda, a chiropractor with a lengthy rap sheet. I should note here that after Dr. Cereceda lent a financial hand, Mr. Rubio flipped his position on a key issue of great import to the chiropractor. Here are the key details: In 2003, Mr. Rubio bought his first house (at 6247 14th Street SW in West Miami) for $175,000, putting zero money down. He put it up for sale in 2005 but had difficulty selling it because of a weak local real estate market. But gracias a Dios, Dr. Cereceda's mama, Nora Cereceda (now deceased), bought Mr. Rubio's house in 2007 for $380,000 cash, netting Mr. Rubio a profit of about $205,000. Que suerte! Shortly after Mr. Rubio sold the house, he did a 180-degree rotation on a key insurance bill for which Dr. Cereceda had been lobbying. Whereas he had previously been an outspoken opponent of the measure—indeed, he was described in one local press item at the time as "the main holdout"—he ended up voting for the legislation, which required Florida drivers to purchase $10,000 worth of personal injury Insurance." (Observer, 1/18/16)

"Many Of Dr. Cereceda's Clients Were Injured Drivers Who Paid Him With Insurance Money. And By The Way, Reported Cases Of Personal Injury Fraud Immediately Soared In Florida After The Measure Passed." (Observer, 1/18/16)

"Dr. Cereceda Has A Lengthy Arrest Record Both Prior To And After His Mama Bought Mr. Rubio's House. In 2003, He Was Arrested On Charges Of Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon. Two Years Later, He Was Arrested For Felony Battery And Also For Disorderly Conduct, And Then In 2013 He Was Busted For Running An Illegal Political Contribution Scheme By Which He Ordered His Employees To Contribute To Political Campaigns In Their Names And Then He And His Relatives Reimbursed Them." "Dr. Cereceda has a lengthy arrest record both prior to and after his mama bought Mr. Rubio's house. In 2003, he was arrested on charges of Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon. Two years later, he was arrested for Felony Battery and also for Disorderly Conduct, and then in 2013 he was busted for running an illegal political contribution scheme by which he ordered his employees to contribute to political campaigns in their names and then he and his relatives reimbursed them. The doctor got off light. He was sentenced to house arrest and given probation. Dr. Cereceda has been a big donor to Ana Maria Pando, a disgraced former Hialeah branch county court judge, who wrote a letter to state authorities—on official letterhead—asking that Dr. Cereceda's company be reinstated after it got into some legal trouble. Pando was later convicted for taking a bribe from Dr. Cereceda, who ratted her out." (Observer, 1/18/16)

Controversial Associations – Esteban Bovo

"When Mr. Rubio Stepped Down From The House In 2008 (Two Years Before He Ran And Won A U.S. Senate Seat) He Became Partner In Another Law/Lobbying Firm—Florida Strategic Consultants—With The Wife Of A Notoriously Corrupt Florida Politician And Lobbyist Named Esteban Bovo, Sometimes Known As "El Bobo.'" "Then, when Mr. Rubio stepped down from the House in 2008 (two years before he ran and won a U.S. Senate seat) he became partner in another law/lobbying firm—Florida Strategic Consultants—with the wife of a notoriously corrupt Florida politician and lobbyist named Esteban Bovo, sometimes known as "El Bobo." (El Bobo's wife, Vivian Bovo, had been Mr. Rubio's top aide in the House.) While working at the firm, Mr. Rubio scored fat contracts from Miami Children's Hospital and Jackson Memorial Hospital. Meanwhile, El Bobo was in position to appropriate money for the hospitals as chairman of a subcommittee of the Florida House Budget Committee. It was a win-win for Mr. Rubio and the Bovo clan." (Observer, 1/18/16)

Controversial Associations – Wayne Berman

In 2015, Citizens For Responsibility And Ethics In Washington (CREW) "Filed A Criminal Complaint Against Mr. Rubio's National Finance Chairman, Wayne Berman, Accusing Him Of Lying To Investigators And Apparently Taking More Than A Million Dollars From A Non-Profit." "Last year Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) filed a complaint with the IRS against Conservative Solutions Project, a political organization spending millions of dollars on pro-Rubio ads while masquerading as a "social welfare" non-profit. It also filed a criminal complaint against Mr. Rubio's national finance chairman, Wayne Berman, accusing him of lying to investigators and apparently taking more than a million dollars from a non-profit. And in 2012, CREW named David Rivera as one of the "Most Corrupt Members of Congress." "Senator Rubio and his circle are no strangers to ethics issues," the group's spokesman, Jordan Libowitz, told me. Mr. Rubio's presidential campaign, Mr. Rivera's attorney, Michael Band, and the FBI declined comment for this story." (Observer, 2/25/16)

Berman Is "A Prominent Republican Donor And Senior Executive At The Blackstone Group." "Sen. Marco Rubio will raise money later this month at the Washington home of Wayne Berman, a prominent Republican donor and senior executive at the Blackstone Group. Guests attending the April 30 dinner will pay $10,000 to be a co-chairman; $5,400 to be a co-host; and $2,700 to be a regular attendee at the reception, according to an invitation obtained by CNN and confirmed by Berman. The eight co-chairs listed on the invite include well-known figures in Washington circles, such as Rob Chamberlin of McBee Strategic; Joe Wall of Goldman Sachs; Jennifer Larkin Lukawski of the BGR Group; and Scott Weaver of Wiley Rein. Rubio kicked off his campaign for president earlier this week, joining his Senate colleagues, Ted Cruz of Texas and Rand Paul of Kentucky, in the Republican field. Assembling a prominent list of K Street supporters is a show of force for Rubio, who is competing for Washington support with the two other senators, as well as Jeb Bush, who has deep connections to the D.C. influence world. Berman is one of Rubio's top supporters and estimates he has hosted around a dozen or so events for the Florida senator in recent years. Reached on the phone Wednesday morning, Berman said the list of heavy-hitter co-chairs listed on the invitation for the April 30 dinner

demonstrates the level of enthusiasm for the senator's White House bid. "Sen. Rubio has attracted a well-known group of highly effective Republican fundraisers to chair the event, and I'm honored to be hosting it at my house," Berman said. "There's a lot of excitement building around his campaign, particularly coming off a wildly successful launch in Miami.'" (CNN, 4/15/15)

Controversial Associations – Norman Braman

Rubio's Major Financial Backer Norman Braman Was Also Known To Employ Rubio's Wife Through The Braman Family's Philanthropic Foundation – "Making Theirs A Unique Donor-Politician Relationship." "When Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) announces his plans to run for president next week — as expected — he'll launch his formal campaign and be limited in how much money he can raise. But he'll have the help of a new super PAC, Conservative Solutions, which formally launched Thursday under the leadership of J. Warren Tompkins, a veteran South Carolina Republican operative. One of the biggest financial backers of the PAC is expected to be Norman Braman, a billionaire businessman and philanthropist who runs auto dealerships across South Florida and in the Denver area. He's the former owner of the Philadelphia Eagles and a major history buff — his Miami office, on the second floor of one of his downtown dealerships, is adorned with framed letters written by Colonial and Civil War-era generals and lawmakers. He keeps a treasure trove of Abraham Lincoln swag at his home, he said. Braman is not only a Rubio backer and donor, but his family's philanthropic foundation also employs Jeanette Rubio, the senator's wife, on a part-time basis — making theirs a unique donor-politician relationship. In a recent interview with The Washington Post, Braman, 82, discussed his relationship with Rubio — including the time they traveled to Israel in 2010, and why he's not supporting former Florida governor Jeb Bush — and, why he doesn't regret giving up his team." (*The Washington Post*, 4/9/15)

"Braman Also Employed Rubio As A Lawyer During The Latter's 2010 Campaign For The Senate — And Now Employs His Wife, Jeannette Rubio, An Arrangement That Began Shortly After Her Husband Was Elected." "Presidential candidate Marco Rubio on Saturday defended his ties to a major donor who's bankrolled his political career and personally employed both Rubio and his wife. Rubio's relationship with Norman Braman, a billionaire South Florida auto dealer and former owner of the Philadelphia Eagles, has come under scrutiny — notably in the pages of The New York Times this weekend — as the freshman Florida senator has mounted a presidential bid. "Norm Braman is a great man, a pillar of the South Florida community and someone who I'm personally close to. I'm very proud to be associated with him," Rubio said in an interview early Saturday evening, after he walked up and down Greenville's Main Street shaking hands with voters. He repeated past assertions that there's no ethical conflicts in the relationship because Braman has never asked him for political favors. "I'm proud that he's a donor, I'm proud that he's a friend. And I'm proud that he was a client," Rubio said. "The only thing Norman Braman's ever asked my help on is charities, whether it's a cancer center, or a genomics center at the University of Miami." Rubio and his family have benefited both personally and politically from Braman since the start of the senator's political career. Braman donated money to Rubio's campaigns and would likely be a major backer for the super PAC that's been formed to help support Rubio's presidential run. Braman also employed Rubio as a

lawyer during the latter's 2010 campaign for the Senate — and now employs his wife, Jeannette Rubio, an arrangement that began shortly after her husband was elected." (MSNBC, 5/9/15)

Controversial Associations – Fanjul Family

Rubio Is Known To Have A Close, Longstanding Political Leadership With The Fanjul Family, Which Owns Sugar Conglomerate Florida Crystals And Prominently Supports Continued Sugar Industry Subsidies That Rubio Also Backs. "After talking about being the son of a bartender during his announcement to run for president last year, Marco Rubio walked off stage in Miami and hugged a middle-age man in a tan suit. That man was Jose "Pepe" Fanjul, the patriarch of the family that owns sugar giant Florida Crystals and whom Rubio has credited for helping him win the U.S. Senate seat he's defending this year. The Fanjuls and their company have supported Rubio since his first election to the Florida House in 2000 and stood by him as he became the speaker, a senator and a presidential candidate. And Rubio has stood by many of the company's positions, in particular related to the environment and Lake Okeechobee discharges. In addition to the $504,000 the Fanjuls and their company have given to support the Republican, they have organized dozens of fundraisers and introduced him to key political players. The sugar industry, including Florida Crystals competitor U.S. Sugar Corp., has invested $632,000 on Rubio since 2000. Rubio and the Fanjuls share a common personal background. Pepe and his brother, Alfonso, were born into a prominent Cuban sugar family that fled the island after Fidel Castro seized power in 1959. They created one of the nation's largest sugar productions in South Florida, with operations in the Dominican Republic as well. Rubio's parents left the island in 1956. "The Fanjuls believed in me early on, when few others did, and I'm grateful for that," Rubio said in an emailed statement. He declined to be interviewed for this story. Despite winning the Senate in 2010 on an anti-big government platform, Rubio is a staunch defender of a federal program that artificially inflates sugar prices. The Great Depression-era program sets quotas on imports and gives growers loans they can repay with surplus sugar if prices fall near of below the loan rate. The program has many opponents: environmentalists; manufacturers that use sugar in their products, like candy makers; and the corn industry, which produces corn syrup, a sugar substitute. Congress has voted to continue the program several times with support from several Florida lawmakers. The sugar industry employs 14,000 to 15,000 people in Florida, and Rubio is prepared to eliminate the program once other countries end their sugar subsidies, he said in a 2015 "Meet the Press" interview. "If the American sugar industry is wiped out because, for example, the Brazilians heavily subsidize theirs," Rubio said, "once we are out of the picture, the Brazilians now hold a disproportionate share of the sugar industry and at that point they can charge whatever they want for it." Rubio's Democratic opponent, U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy, voted against a 2013 amendment to reform the federal sugar program. Murphy, who represents the Treasure Coast and northern Palm Beach County, "supports working with our trading partners to remove subsidies and barriers so that all sides can compete on a level playing field," his campaign said." (TC Palm, 11/4/16)

Controversial Associations – Floridians For Conservative Leadership Committee (FCLC)

In 2002, Rubio's Wife Incorporated A Nonprofit PAC Called Floridians For Conservative Leadership Committee (FCLC); The PAC Received Assistance From Alexander Heckler

(A Prominent Democratic Attorney Known For His Support For Hillary Clinton And Links To Straw Donations) And Joaquin Urquiola (Linked To A Bank Tied To Money Laundering For South American Cartels). "I mentioned above a PAC and a bribe so let me turn to that story now, which actually involved a few of Mr. Rubio's PACs and assorted businesses. Pay particular attention here to three key figures who were all intimate, longtime friends of Mr. Rubio's: —Alexander Heckler, an attorney who in 2011 was found to have set up PACs that shuffled illegal straw donations to political candidates for his clients. Heckler, a lawyer and leading Florida lobbyist as well as a "Hillraiser," the term for then-Senator Hillary Clinton's top fundraisers, performed legal and accounting services for the treasurer of a Rubio-affiliated PAC, but only disclosed that several years afterwards, apparently to obscure his role. Heckler is also the stepson of Franklin Sands, who for many years—including the period when the story below took place—was the most powerful Democrat in the Florida House. —Joaquin Urquiola, the treasurer for the two Rubio-affiliated PACs who Heckler did work for, who at the same time was being questioned by federal regulators about his role at an Ecuadorian bank with Miami offices that was suspected of violating anti-money laundering laws by taking in cash from several South American drug cartels. Urquiola was an accountant and director of the bank, Pacific National Bank, and he and Pacific were in fact subsequently hit with fines for violating anti-money laundering laws and the Bank Secrecy Act. According to a 2011 story about the case in the South Florida Business Journal, the bank and its directors had previously been sanctioned for similar crimes and allowed "the violations to continue for years." —Bridget Nocco, the lobbyist friend of Mr. Rubio's whom I mentioned above. The story begins in late 2002 when Jeanette Dousdebes, Mr. Rubio's wife, incorporated a nonprofit PAC called Floridians for Conservative Leadership Committee (FCLC). She was the registered agent and only director for this short-lived entity, which the State of Florida dissolved three years later because it had failed to file an annual report. Urquiola, the executive at the bank that allowed a drug cartel to launder money, was the group's treasurer, and Heckler quietly helped him out, according to information provided to me by the National Legal and Policy Center, a Virginia-based watchdog group that provided key research for this section of the story. During its brief existence, FCLC raised $228,350, of which roughly $35,000 disappeared into thin air, according to the entity's own tax returns. Its largest donor by far was a scandal-plagued PAC called OPH ($50,000) but Democratic super-lobbyist Ron Book also gave generously. Bridget Nocco, Mr. Rubio's lobbyist pal, was paid nearly $26,000 by the PAC for salary and consulting services, according to its nonprofit tax filings with the IRS." (Observer, 1/18/16)

- **Rubio "Made The Most Of A Loophole In State Financial Disclosure Rules By Creating A "Committee Of Continuous Existence," An Orwellian-Sounding Fund Not Subject To State Sunshine Laws. He Poured Almost $230,000 Into The Fund, Which He Then Used To Crisscross The State And Lobby Legislators."** "But he also made the most of a loophole in state financial disclosure rules by creating a "committee of continuous existence," an Orwellian-sounding fund not subject to state Sunshine Laws. He poured almost $230,000 into the fund, which he then used to crisscross the state and lobby legislators. The biggest donors to the group, called Floridians for Conservative Leadership, included a who's who of big businesses Rubio later supported as speaker, according to a recent review of the committee's records by the St. Petersburg Times, which reported on the leaked documents. There was U.S. Sugar, Florida Crystals, and

AT&T.; (There was also $50,000 from Alan Mendelsohn, a Broward ophthalmologist arrested last year by the FBI on corruption charges.)" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **"In All, The Fund (Which Was Chartered To Support Conservative Candidates Statewide) Spent 99 Percent Of Its Cash — All But $4,000 — On Rubio Himself, A Clear Contradiction Of Its Charter."** "Even more troubling, according to the newspaper: Rubio failed to disclose $34,000 he spent out of the fund, including $7,000 he paid himself in 2003 and 2004. He also paid his wife $5,700, supposedly for working as treasurer, and spent more than $51,000 to reimburse credit card expenses for restaurants, hotels, and travel. In all, the fund (which was chartered to support conservative candidates statewide) spent 99 percent of its cash — all but $4,000 — on Rubio himself, a clear contradiction of its charter. Asked by the St. Petersburg Times about the spending, Rubio blasted his opponent, Charlie Crist: "None of our donors has ever questioned how the money was spent. In fact, the only one raising this question is the Crist campaign." In November 2003, thanks in part to his fund, Rubio defeated fellow Republican Jeff Kottkamp for speaker. It was a historic win — no descendent of Cubans had ever held the post, and Rubio, at 32 years old, was by far the youngest." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

"Mr. Rubio, Urquiola And Heckler Were All Players In Another Shady Deal, This One Involving A Nonprofit PAC Called Floridians For Real Family Values Inc. It Was Set Up By Heckler In 2006—The Year Mr. Rubio Was Sworn In As Speaker Of The Florida House." "Mr. Rubio, Urquiola and Heckler were all players in another shady deal, this one involving a nonprofit PAC called Floridians for Real Family Values Inc. It was set up by Heckler in 2006—the year Mr. Rubio was sworn in as speaker of the Florida House. For some reason Heckler failed to disclose to Florida election authorities that Urquiola was the PAC's treasurer, but he was listed as filling that role in the group's federal tax returns, which Heckler filed. What's also odd is that the federal tax identification number Urquiola used for Floridians for Real Family Values' tax return was actually the same used by the FCLG, the 527 that Mr. Rubio created and was president of, which suggests that the two entities were essentially identical. Between October 24 and November 2 of 2006, Floridians for Real Family Values raised $244,000. Also in 2006, Urquiola incorporated a company called Florida Media Productions Group Inc., which operated out of the same address as the FCLG. Florida Media Productions Group was established to work on behalf of political campaigns, but there's not much evidence that the company did any work at all. It never bothered to set up a website nor did it ever create a single TV, print or online campaign ad. The only income it ever received—about $150,000—came from two Heckler's controlled PACs, one being Floridians for Real Family Values. All that money was paid for "consulting" services, though the payments were made long after the election year was over. Most of the money raised by Floridians for Real Family Values that didn't go to Florida Media Productions Group—about $33,000—simply disappeared when the former was shut down." (Observer, 1/18/16)

- **"Again, His Financial Management Was Questionable. The St. Petersburg Times Found That $14,000 From The Fund Went To Rubio's Mother-In-Law And Two Of His Wife's Cousins For "Courier Work." About One-Fifth Of The Committee's Expenses Were Never Accounted For At All. Rubio Says That's Because The Money Went Toward Expenses Under $500, Which Don't Have To Be Detailed."** "Again, his

financial management was questionable. The St. Petersburg Times found that $14,000 from the fund went to Rubio's mother-in-law and two of his wife's cousins for "courier work." About one-fifth of the committee's expenses were never accounted for at all. Rubio says that's because the money went toward expenses under $500, which don't have to be detailed. He used the second fund to thrust himself onto the national stage, thanks to a campaign called 100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future. The tour had Rubio and other Republicans traveling the state for so-called idearaiser town halls with voters. Rubio later published the ideas in a book and was hailed as a rising GOP star. (Gingrich, for example, predicted Rubio would "emerge as a national leader" and called the project "a work of genius.") By 2005, Rubio's official election ceremony as speaker felt like a coronation. Supporters in Miami broadcast it live to Cuba on Radio Martí. And Bush presented his mystical sword of conservative power. But Rubio's promise would soon devolve into partisan bickering, and his golden-boy image would take a pounding thanks to his choice of friends and some questionable financial moves." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Miscellaneous

In His 2012 Memoir, Rubio Acknowledges That The Miami Herald Accused Him Of Rigging The Turnpike Bidding Process For Concessions In Favor Of A Close Friend – An Accusation Denied By Rubio Even Though He Noted He Acted On His Friend's Concern And Supported Legislation "That Required The Concessions For Food And Gas To Be Bid Separately." "I was accused by the Miami Herald of trying to rig the state bidding process for concessions on Florida's turnpike on behalf of a close, personal friend, Max Alvarez. Max owns dozens of gas stations in Miami. He was concerned that the Florida Department of Transportation had made it impossible for all but the biggest companies to operate gas stations on the turnpike by insisting that companies bid for both gas and food concessions together. I'd seen this kind of fix before on the local level when a bid's specifications are written in such a way that only 1 or 2 companies have a shot at a contract. I agreed to support legislation that required the concessions for food and gas to be bid separately. The Miami Herald claimed that I had intervened in the bidding process to give an advantage to a friend. Of course, the legislature couldn't award or deny a contract. I felt I was vindicated a few months later when a new contract was awarded to a large Spanish conglomerate." (An American Son, by Marco Rubio, p.156-157 Jun 19, 2012)

Character And Leadership Issues

Character Issues – Ambition, Opportunism, And Self-Promotion

"Rubio's Detractors, And Even Some Admirers, Suggest That His Career So Far Has Been Less About Good Government Than Politics And Self-Promotion"; Rubio Has Also Been Accused Of Making Deals That Harm His Own Constituents. "Rubio's detractors, and even some admirers, suggest that his career so far has been less about good government than politics and self-promotion. His autobiography recounts virtually no substantive achievements beyond a hometown tree-planting project. In the class, he devoted much of his time to recounting the machinations that persuaded his colleagues to elect him speaker: "You raise money for them. You befriend them. You make sure your kids are friends with their kids. And then you cut the best deal you can." He didn't mention that the deal he reportedly cut to secure North Florida

support for his candidacy revised funding formulas at the expense of his South Florida constituents. "Marco Rubio's going to do whatever's good for Marco Rubio," says former Hialeah mayor Raul Martinez, a Democratic rival in Florida's rough-and-tumble exile politics." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Rubio "Is A World-Class Opportunist With An Uncanny Habit Of Being In The Right Place At The Right Time. He's Driven, Ambitious, And Relentless. And He's A Hypocrite…" "None of these views is quite accurate. Though Rubio declined multiple invitations for an interview over the past year, New Times trailed him for a month across 1,300 miles of rallies from Tampa Bay to Orlando. We also spoke to family, friends, former football teammates, and present-day adversaries. Rubio, we found, is a world-class opportunist with an uncanny habit of being in the right place at the right time. He's driven, ambitious, and relentless. And he's a hypocrite: a "fiscally conservative" Republican who has let his own home lapse into foreclosure, likely abused state party credit cards, and spent tens of thousands of dollars in political donations on personal expenses. He's a supposed outsider who's been a party-line politician since he was 26 years old." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **A Former Republican Legislator Has Claimed Rubio Is "A Conniving Opportunist Who Used His Friends To Get What He Wanted…"** "But even in the runup to his coronation as speaker, critics began to snipe that his ambition blinded him to the norms of ethical behavior. "He's a conniving opportunist who used his friends to get what he wanted," says a fellow Republican legislator who asked not to be named because he's still in the GOP. "He screwed Miami-Dade on budget after budget, and he got rich off his connections.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

During His Tenure In The Florida Statehouse, Rubio "Completed A Remarkable Transformation From Moderate, Fresh-Faced West Miami Kid…" "With that bizarre gesture, Rubio completed a remarkable transformation from moderate, fresh-faced West Miami kid with only a battered Toyota to his name into one of the most powerful men in Tallahassee. In a little more than five years, he had morphed into a "conservative warrior" with three homes and a $300,000-per-year law gig; he had become a potential heir to the Bush legacy." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **"Rubio Did Not Cloak His Ambition" While Seeking Ever More Substantial House Leadership Roles.** "Rubio did not cloak his ambition. When Fasano resigned as majority leader after a flap with the House speaker in September 2001, the first call he received was from Rubio, who was already wrangling for the legislator's old job. "It wasn't, 'How's everything going?' It was, 'Can you help me become majority leader?' " recalls Fasano. (The former legislator is now supporting Bush for president.) "He had only been a member of the Florida Legislature for a couple of years. He wasn't thinking about what good he could do for the Legislature, for his party, and for his constituents. He was thinking about what good he could do for himself." (Rubio declined to be interviewed for this article.) He didn't get the majority leader post that time; the speaker chose a more experienced lawmaker. But another opportunity soon came along. In his second year in the Legislature, he volunteered to help a committee tasked with the once-in-a-decade ritual of redrawing voting district boundaries. It's a tedious task, one that involves managing the grievances of dozens of lawmakers whose political careers could end with

> the shifting of lines. Johnnie Byrd, a Republican leader on his way to becoming speaker, thought Rubio would be perfect for the job. "He has this real ability to communicate with people all over the state," Byrd says. "Many Miami-based legislators don't have that ability to communicate statewide, so I let him run with it.' Fueled by a steady diet of Mountain Dew and Cuban coffee, Rubio pored over the legislative maps. He broke the state into five regions and met one-on-one with lawmakers to help draw boundaries. "The most personal thing a legislator ever has to deal with is their own district," Byrd says, "and he was able to make them reasonably happy. … Imagine a freshman legislator in an organization driven by seniority and he captivates all of them, on both sides of the aisle, and brings it in for a landing." Rubio's hustle endeared him to leadership, and in late 2002, he was appointed majority leader. At some level, it was a natural stepping stone to House speaker. Yet Rubio's supporters discouraged the move, saying it would kill his speakership ambitions before they left the cradle. "I would be in the vote-counting business, and would have to twist arms on difficult votes, making as many enemies as friends in the process," he wrote in his memoir. His solution? He persuaded Byrd, the speaker, to restructure the jobmaking him primarily the chief spokesman for the House GOP while transferring the more difficult legislative wrangling to the whip's office." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

While Serving As Speaker, "Some Said Rubio's Personal Ambitions Had Overshadowed The Needs Of His Party." "During his two years as speaker of the Florida House, Rubio repeatedly clashed with Gov. Charlie Crist. "I think Charlie Crist was his worst nightmare when it came to moving the agenda that he wanted to move," says one of Rubio's former colleagues. (AP Photo/Phil Coale)Some said Rubio's personal ambitions had overshadowed the needs of his party. "He oversaw the single worst election cycle for Republicans in state history," says Steve Schale, the strategist who ran the House Democrats' campaign. "He was focused on a lot of legacy-building things and not recruiting good candidates and running good races.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Character Issues – Vanity, Lightweight, And Diminished Stature

Rubio's Controversial Use Of A Florida Republican Party Credit Card Indicated That Rubio Was Known To Spend $135 On Haircuts During The Period Between 2007 And 2009. "In the meantime, as he advocated slashing state spending, Rubio spent like mad on an American Express credit card issued to the Florida Republican Party and paid for by donors. Between 2007 and 2009, he charged about $100,000 on the card — including almost $16,000 in personal expenses such as a $135 haircut and $1,000 in repairs to his family's minivan, according to a Herald investigation. (Rubio has repaid the party for some charges but refuses to assume other expenses he says were legitimate.)" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **NOTE:** *Adjusted for inflation, $135 in 2008 is equal to $197 in 2024.*

VIDEO: In 2013, Rubio Awkwardly Paused His SOTU Response To Take A Sip Of Water. (YouTube, 2/13/13)



(YouTube, 2/13/13)

In 2016, Rubio Was Mocked And Scrutinized For Wearing Made In China Zip Up Boots That Some Alleged Were Worn To Make Him Appear Taller. "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio is trying to stamp out criticism from other presidential candidates about his slick, zip-up boots by saying he's giving American business a leg up. Rubio's ankle boots became the subject of Internet scrutiny after he was photographed wearing them in New Hampshire on Jan. 3, 2016. Pundits and fashion columnists commented on them ad nauseam. Rubio drew fire from his GOP rivals for being perhaps a bit too chic for the campaign trail. Some speculated they were to make the 5-foot-10 senator appear taller. Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul called the boots "cute" and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's Right to Rise super PAC made a commercial mocking them. While Rubio initially called the focus on his footwear "craziness," he's worked at thinking on his feet. At a Jan. 18 campaign event in Waverly, Iowa, a voter jokingly asked about the boots. Rubio declared his boots, appropriately outfitted with a Cuban heel, are a patriotic choice. "They sold out of those boots online," Rubio said. "They're made in Wisconsin. Florsheim! You know what that means? That means I did more for American business in one week than Barack Obama did in seven years!" He's right that Florsheim's website says some sizes of their $135 Duke boots are out of stock, but they should be available by Feb. 1. A Florsheim spokesman told us sales of that style have "increased significantly" since Rubio was shown wearing them. As for the part about being made in Wisconsin, well, Rubio probably should have watched his step. Like all of the Glendale, Wis., company's shoes, Rubio's boots aren't made in the United States. The company did recently collaborate with designer George Esquivel to create a luxury shoe line that is made in California, but Florsheim said their products are made in Asia, mostly from China." (Politifact, 1/19/16)



(Twitter, 1/4/16)

Character Issues – Ideological Flexibility

Prior To Becoming Florida House Speaker, Rubio Was Relatively Moderate And "Was Hardly The Scorching Conservative Who Would Later Woo Tea Partiers Nationwide." "Back then, he was hardly the scorching conservative who would later woo Tea Partiers nationwide. Before the year's session, he told the Herald he'd focus on supporting early education and community policing. And he wasn't particularly passionate about cutting spending. In his first three years, he supported adding a $4 surcharge to cruise tickets to fund a Marlins stadium and a $1.2 million earmark to build new bike paths in his district. "In his first years, Marco was not this red-meat, Tea Party, let's-abolish-the-government guy you're seeing on the trail now," Sen. Steve Geller says. "His politics didn't shift that way until he became the speaker-designate.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

In 2000, Rubio "Campaigned As A Moderate Republican, Preaching Tax Cuts And Early-Childhood Education While Leaving Social Issues Off The Table." "JUST SEVEN YEARS before his designation ceremony, Rubio was knocking on doors in West Miami, the middle-class city of Cuban immigrants where he grew up. Barely out of law school, the 26-year-old was seeking a seat on the city commission. He won easily. Then, less than two years later, a seat in Florida House District 111a safe GOP district came open when a state representative resigned early to run for the state Senate. Rubio jumped in. He campaigned as a moderate Republican, preaching tax cuts and early-childhood education while leaving social issues off the table. In the primary, he faced tough competition from Angel Zayon, a radio and television reporter popular

among Cuban exiles. But Rubio won a runoff by 64 votes, and, with the GOP nomination in hand, coasted to victory in the general election." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

"Rubio Was Not Entirely A Rock-Ribbed Conservative. Some Former Colleagues Describe Him As A Centrist Who Sought Out Democrats And Groups That Don't Typically Align With The GOP." "But Rubio was not entirely a rock-ribbed conservative. Some former colleagues describe him as a centrist who sought out Democrats and groups that don't typically align with the GOP. Early in his tenure, for instance, he set up a meeting with farmworkers to discuss their working conditions." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

In His 2012 Memoir, Rubio Praised Bipartisanship Noting "Most Americans Want To See Republicans And Democrats Working Together For The Good Of The Country. It's Refreshing, Too, To Be Able To Break Free From The Usual Constraints Of Partisanship And Work With Colleagues On The Other Side Of The Aisle." "When you debate with colleagues in the Senate, you've met them, have come to know them and, often, have worked with them on other legislation. And you're going to need their cooperation in the future, if only to get unanimous consent for a minor request. Senators are always looking to join with one or more members of the opposite party to sponsor legislation. The rules of the Senate make it impossible for the most legislation to pass without some bipartisan support. But there are other motivations for bipartisan cooperation as well. First, your constituents appreciate it. Most Americans want to see Republicans and Democrats working together for the good of the country. It's refreshing, too, to be able to break free from the usual constraints of partisanship and work with colleagues on the other side of the aisle. Even on issues where there isn't bipartisan agreement, most senators respect opposing points of view, especially if those views rest on principle and not politics." (An American Son, by Marco Rubio, p.288-289 Jun 19, 2012)

Leadership Issues – Career Politician

Rubio Is A Career Politician, Who Has Held Office Or Worked In Government Consulting Roles Continuously Since His First Election In 1998 At The Age Of 26. "After Dole lost, Rubio went to work for Cardenas's law firm, Tew Cardenas. At that time, he met a former Dolphins cheerleader named Jeanette Dousdebes, a gorgeous Colombian-American with long blond hair. They married in 1998. That same year, he decided to run for city commission in West Miami, a hamlet of 5,800 people tucked south of Tamiami Trail and west of Red Road. Though the race drew only a few hundred voters, Rubio's gift for forging connections paid off. Rebeca Sosa, then the commission chair, was tending flowers in her front lawn on a spring day in 1998 when the candidate walked up to introduce himself. "I couldn't believe how young he looked. I said, 'You're too young. Why would you run?'" Sosa says. "But he started talking about everything he learned from his grandfather, and I was just blown away." The next week, Rubio began knocking on every door in West Miami. His opponent, incumbent Tania Rozio, was a community activist. She couldn't believe this 26-year-old kid had the backing of Sosa and a big-league manager like Lorenzo. "I'm not a politician, and I never have been. He was 20-something, and he was already a professional politician," Rozio says. "It was no contest." On election night, Rubio and the other commissioners gathered at West Miami's small city hall, a squat building tucked behind Tropical Supermarket on Calle Ocho. A half-hour after Rubio won by a convincing 744 to 244, the phone rang. "It was Jeb Bush himself, calling to congratulate Marco

for winning our little race," recalls Enrique Gonzalez, who also won a seat that year. "He was the anointed golden child, even then.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Leadership Issues – Lack Of Leadership And Accomplishments

Rubio's Tenure In The Florida Statehouse Was Marked By A Lack Of Any Real Policy Accomplishments Or Successes; "In An American Son, Rubio Concedes He Never Really Had Much Experience Chairing A Committee Until His Next-To-Last Term, When He Was Assigned To Lead A Select Committee On Eminent Domain. He Even Recounts How He Asked One Speaker To Restructure The House Majority Leader Job He Wanted So That It Did Not Involve Whipping Votes—A Task He Knew Would Alienate Members Whose Support He Needed Later To Win The Speakership." "All that time seeking the next leadership post up the ladder left less time for legislating. In An American Son, Rubio concedes he never really had much experience chairing a committee until his next-to-last term, when he was assigned to lead a select committee on eminent domain. He even recounts how he asked one speaker to restructure the House majority leader job he wanted so that it did not involve whipping votes—a task he knew would alienate members whose support he needed later to win the speakership. Rubio had few major legislative accomplishments in those years, although he did repeatedly and unsuccessfully push for a second multi-million-dollar subsidy for the baseball Marlins. (At one point, Bush emailed Rubio an article about how Floridians did not support subsidies for sports teams.)" (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

Rubio Failed To Achieve More Than One Third Of The Legislative Goals He Set Out To Accomplish As Florida Speaker And During The 2016 Presidential Campaign Only Offered A Stock Answer Of Seven Specific Topic Areas When Asked About U.S. Senate Accomplishments. "When asked, Marco Rubio insists that his record is lengthy and substantive. In a race where his rivals have suggested that he is far too inexperienced for the presidency, it's no surprise that the first-term Florida senator gets asked the question -- what, exactly, has he done? -- a lot. It's a question his campaign can't seem to escape, especially since Rubio's rivals have targeted it relentlessly. Sen. Rick Santorum made headlines last week not for endorsing Rubio upon his departure from the race, something he did do, but for being unable to name a single one of Rubio's accomplishments. During Saturday night's debate, the senator was asked to explain his record, which offered Gov. Chris Christie the opportunity to slam it as nonexistent. This morning, at a small, employer-sponsored town hall at BAE Systems in Nashua, an employee asked Rubio to name "the single accomplishment of which you're most proud of and the leadership that you employed achieving it." Rubio answered with no less than seven specific bills, taking military contractors on a meandering review of nearly every elected office he's held in the last two decades. "As part of the debate the other night, there was a big discussion about eminent domain and Governor Bush referred to what we did in Florida to protect against eminent domain abuse," he said. "That was my law. I wrote...we helped craft that law from a committee that I chaired, we passed it into the law of Florida. I was the one that placed it on the ballot." ("Governor Bush always appreciated when State Representative Rubio supported his agenda," a Bush spokesman told MSNBC.) Rubio also touted curriculum reform in Florida -- another thing Bush has touted before -- and said that when he became House Speaker in the state legislature, he'd written a book of 100 legislative goals, more than half of which are now law or policy.

PolitiFact found this claim to be just half true way back in 2010. About a third of his 100 legislative goals were enacted or partially enacted into law, far less than the more than half he touted today. As for the Senate achievements he was asked about, Rubio offered up his stock answer: sanctions on Hezbollah and Venezuela, the Veterans Affairs Accountability Act, defunding the Obamacare bailout fund, the Girls Count Act. He concluded by arguing that to really achieve his agenda, he'll need to be president." (MSNBC, 2/8/16)

- **Rubio's Tenure As Speaker Was Marked By "His Mismanagement And Refusal To Compromise" Which Handicapped His Ability To Secure Accomplishments.** "Rage flashes through Marco Rubio's hazel eyes. His gavel echoes like a gunshot through the chamber. Legislators freeze. Rep. Franklin Sands, a Democrat from Weston, stops midstride on his way back to his desk. "The clerk will stop reading until Representative Sands takes his seat," Rubio intones icily. Through months of partisan bickering, the speaker had never cracked. But that day, his caffeinated drive melted into anger and frustration. "He just exploded," recalls Dan Gelber, then the House minority leader and now a candidate for state attorney general. "He was angry, very angry, and it was worse because he knew he'd lost his cool." The cause of Rubio's outburst on April 18, 2008, was a procedural trick by Democrats, who forced Republicans to read every word of every bill aloud before a vote. The speaker, in turn, locked the chamber doors and ordered security guards to force every representative into his or her seat. He forbade bathroom breaks and turned off the chamber's Internet access. There was just a month left in Rubio's last legislative session, and his anger was the culmination of two years that began with great promise but devolved — thanks in part to his mismanagement and refusal to compromise — into a tenure critics said fell short of expectations. "I'm fond of Marco personally," Gelber says. "But throughout his term, he told the public what they wanted to hear instead of trying to actually address the complex challenges we faced as a state.'" (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)
- **Rubio's Ambition "Proved Greater Than His Ability To Find Consensus."** "As Rubio's final session began in March 2008, his top priorities again looked custom-built to win over the anti-tax zealots who would later form the Tea Party's base. He advocated a flat property tax cap and a constitutional amendment imposing a strict spending cap. His ambition, though, again proved greater than his ability to find consensus. Both his tax plan and spending cap made it out of committee, but as the House was forced to make the deepest budget cuts in state history, the Senate refused to even take up the plans." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

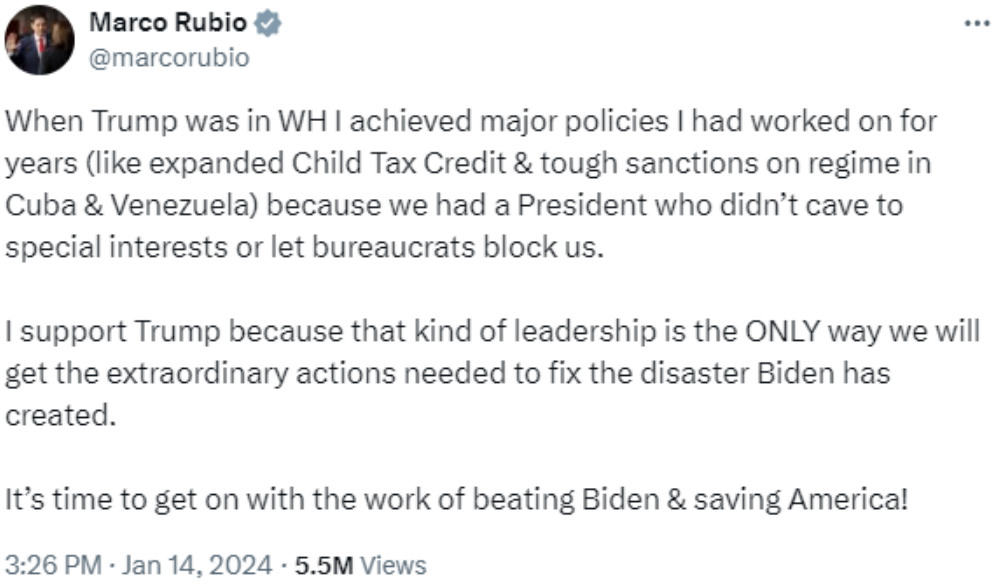
Rubio's Speakership Indicated "A Tendency To Delegate Many Of The Toughest Parts Of Politics." "Rubio's relationship with Rivera was emblematic of the new speaker's general style: a tendency to delegate many of the toughest parts of politics. Bob Levy, a longtime lobbyist, says he rarely visited Rubio when he wanted something for his clients. It was Rivera who took the meetings. "When you talked to David, you knew you were talking to Marco," Levy told me. "Rivera got things done," Gelber says, "sort of like a fighter pilot might plow the horizon for the guys behind himwith a similar amount of damage, I might add." "There were times when David did things that Marco wouldn't necessarily sanction, but he considered that David's choiceas long as they didn't involve Marco directly," Jill Chamberlin, Rubio's former press secretary, told me." (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

- **Rubio Has A Well-Known "Reluctance To Be A Top-Down Manager."** "Indeed, probably the biggest consensus to emerge from my conversations had to do with Rubio's reluctance to be a top-down manager. "There are organizations where it's all about one strong dynamic player, and I saw him as more of the team-builder, someone who empowered other people," says Baxley. Gelber, the Democrat, puts it this way: "Marco, unlike Jeb, is not afraid of a collaborative process. He understands the notion of achieving what you can." In this respect, a Rubio presidency might prove to be a close managerial cousin of the administration of George W. Bush, who was famously comfortable delegating. Where opinion splits is on whether Rubio's tendency toward delegation is a virtue or a problem. While Byrd (a supporter) praises Rubio as "a good listener" who "makes everybody have a part in what's going to happen," Fasano (a Jeb backer) looks at the same instincts and says, "When confronted with an issue, with a problem, he pretty much would throw it in the laps of his staff and want to take the road of noncontroversy. To me, that's not a leader.'" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

In 2016, Rubio-Backer Rick "Santorum Struggled To Name One Accomplishment Rubio Has Had In The Senate" And Failed To Push Back Against Arguments From MSNBC's Morning Joe Hosts That He Had Not Accomplished Anything. "Rick Santorum had one job to do in his appearance on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" on Thursday. He failed. The former Pennsylvania senator, who dropped his presidential bid Wednesday, told co-hosts Joe Scarborough and Mika Brzezinski he is supporting Marco Rubio's presidential campaign because the Florida senator is someone "who can work together with people." But Santorum struggled to name one accomplishment Rubio has had in the Senate. "He's been in the Senate for four years," Scarborough noted. "Can you name his top accomplishment in the Senate — actually working in the Senate doing something that tilted your decision to Marco Rubio?" "If you look at being in the minority in the United States Senate in a year when nothing got — four years where nothing got done, I guess it's hard to say there are accomplishments," Santorum said. "I mean, tell me what happened during that four years that was an accomplishment for anybody? It was complete gridlock." Scarborough shot back that Republicans have been in the majority for the past two years and asked what Rubio has accomplished there since being part of the majority. "Joe, look, the Republicans have been in the majority for one year and one month, of which, as you know, he was running for president primarily," Santorum said. "The first four years he was in the minority, and nothing got done. And by the way, what happened this year under the Republicans?" Scarborough insisted he wasn't defending Congress or being difficult in his questioning. "I'm just asking you to name one accomplishment that Marco Rubio —" Scarborough said as Santorum tried to interrupt. "But list one accomplishment. Just one. Just one that Marco achieved. Maybe a bill that he wrote. Maybe a moment in a committee." Brzezinski then jumped in to make it easier on Santorum, offering a fill-in-the-blank question. "Jeb Bush ran Florida. Donald Trump built a company," she began. "Marco Rubio... — finish the sentence." "OK, Marco Rubio was, No. 1, the speaker of the Florida House, which is not something that's a minor deal," Santorum answered. "I mean, he was elected by his colleagues to be the speaker of the House. No. 2, yeah, he spent four years in the United States Senate being frustrated like everybody else that nothing got done, and then you can't point to him and say well nothing got done and therefore he has no accomplishments.'" (*Politico*, 2/4/16)

Rubio Has Been Criticized For Claiming Credit On Killing An Obamacare Provision Due To Other Senate Negotiators Actually Achieving The Feat. "Asked later why Santorum couldn't name a legislative accomplishment, Rubio then pointed to a veterans affairs measure, sanctions on Hezbollah, killing an Obamacare provision and a measure to prevent human trafficking. The veterans measure was slipped into a larger bill that passed Congress in 2014; the Hezbollah sanctions bill and human trafficking measure each passed with no opposition in the Senate. And his role in pushing to kill the Obamacare provision, which let the government provide a key backstop for insurance companies, has been the subject of sharp dispute. On the campaign trail, Rubio takes credit for legislation that was included in a 2015 spending bill gutting the so-called risk corridors provision. While Rubio was on the forefront calling for changes to the provision in the past, it was ultimately other GOP negotiators who slipped the measure into the spending bill – not Rubio himself. Asked by CNN Thursday how he could take credit for that, Rubio said, "I led the effort to put that in. I was the first one to bring it up. I was the one who pushed forward for two and a half years. … Did I type it on my computer? No. But did I actually get it done? Absolutely.'" (CNN, 2/4/16)

In 2024, Rubio Now Credits Trump's Tenure With Allowing Him To Actually Have Major Policy Achievements, As Rubio Noted In His 2024 Endorsement Of Trump. (Twitter, 1/14/24)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
When Trump was in WH I achieved major policies I had worked on for years (like expanded Child Tax Credit & tough sanctions on regime in Cuba & Venezuela) because we had a President who didn't cave to special interests or let bureaucrats block us.
I support Trump because that kind of leadership is the ONLY way we will get the extraordinary actions needed to fix the disaster Biden has created.
It's time to get on with the work of beating Biden & saving America!
3:26 PM · Jan 14, 2024 · 5.5M Views

(Twitter, 1/14/24)

Leadership Issues – Worst Missed Voting Record

In 2022, Politifact Concluded That Claiming Rubio Had "One Of The Worst Attendance Records In The Senate" Was A "Mostly True" Statement – With Rubio Having Missed More Than 9 Percent Of Roll Call Votes Throughout His Career. "Since taking office in 2011, Rubio has missed 346, or 9.2%, of 3,744 roll call votes, according to GovTrack, a nonpartisan website that collects congressional data. On average, members of the Senate miss around 2.3% of votes during their tenure. Most of Rubio's career absences occurred during his

bid for the Republican presidential nomination in 2016. From April 2015 through March 2016, Rubio missed 129 votes. That's not unusual for a presidential candidate. For example, former President Barack Obama missed 314, or about 24%, of 1,300 roll call votes in his three-year Senate career. Independent Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Republican Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, who both vied for the White House, have worse attendance than Rubio. Sanders has missed more than 14% of votes since 2007; Cruz missed 9.4% since he joined the Senate in 2013. Still, Rubio's attendance record did not immediately improve after his presidential campaign. According to ProPublica, in the 115th Congress, which ran from January 2017 to 2018, Rubio was the eighth most absent member in the Senate, out of 99 senators. (There was one vacancy.) In 2020, Rubio ranked 12th most absent among senators who have served more than 10 years. When looking at the current 117th Congress, however, Rubio's attendance has improved. The 117th Congress began in 2021 and goes through January 2023. So far, he's missed 41 votes, making him the 27th most absent member of the Senate. He cited "travel difficulties" for three absences, per ProPublica. It's also worth noting that none of the votes Rubio missed in the 117th Congress had a specific impact on Florida. The most absent member of the Senate recently is Republican Sen. Mike Rounds of South Dakota. So far, Rounds missed more than 25% of votes. Rubio's campaign did not answer specific questions about his record. Instead, a spokesperson pointed to a list of his achievements in the Senate, including co-authoring the Paycheck Protection Program, or PPP. Demings said Rubio has "one of the worst attendance records in the Senate. " Looking at the percentage of roll call votes Rubio missed throughout his decade as a senator, the statement is accurate. Overall, Rubio missed more than 9% of votes since 2011 — well above the average of 2.3% among members of the Senate. One of the reasons for this is his unsuccessful run for the presidency in 2016. Rubio's attendance record in the 117th Congress is a bit better. So far, he has missed 41 votes, making him the 27th most absent member of the Senate. We rate Demings' claim Mostly True." (Politifact, 7/16/22)

- **Earlier In 2015, Rubio Was Known To Have Had The Worst Record For Missed Votes In The Senate.** "If there were a perfect attendance award for Congress, Sen. Susan Collins would get it. Since taking office in 1997, the Maine Republican hasn't missed a vote in 5,788 opportunities. But some of her colleagues have missed quite a few over the years. Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) and Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) have been absent from the most votes in their respective chambers, according to a new analysis by Vocativ in partnership with GovTrack.us. Of 1,198 total votes, Rubio has missed 99, or 8.3 percent, since taking office in January 2011. "He is one of the only senators with young children who has not moved his family to D.C., and tries to spend as much time in Florida with them as possible," Rubio spokesman Alex Conant told POLITICO. "In addition to his parental responsibilities, in recent years he's also had to return to Florida and miss votes due to his mother's health and civic responsibilities like jury duty." On Rubio's voting record over the last few years, Conant said there will be no doubt where the Florida senator stands as he travels around the country talking to potential voters for a possible presidential run. "Senator Rubio has not made a final decision about 2016, but he's seriously considering running for president and taking the necessary steps to prepare a competitive campaign," he said. Conyers, who is currently the longest-serving member in either chamber, has missed 16.3 percent of 27,195 votes since January 1965. Republicans make up nine of the 10 spots on Vocativ's Senate list, with Hawaii

Democrat Brian Schatz missing the third-most votes after his appointment to the seat following the death of Sen. Daniel Inouye in December 2012. He was subsequently reelected last November. Other names on top 10 list include Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), John Boozman (R-Ark.), Ted Cruz (R-Texas), David Vitter (R-La.), Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) and Roy Blunt (R-Mo.)." (*Politico*, 2/18/15)

Leadership Issues – Senate Office Oversight

In 2018, Rubio Fired His Chief Of Staff Clint Reed "After Determining He Violated Office Policies Regarding Proper Relations Between A Supervisor And Subordinates." "Sen. Marco Rubio has fired his chief of staff after determining he violated office policies regarding proper relations between a supervisor and subordinates. Rubio said in a statement that an investigation concluded his chief of staff Clint Reed engaged in behavior that "in my judgement amounted to threats to withhold employment benefits." Rubio announced the decision to fire Reed just before midnight on Saturday. The Florida Republican said he became aware "for the first time" on Friday "of allegations of improper conduct by my Chief of Staff while under the employment of my office." Rubio said the allegations were reported directly to him and that he then immediately began an investigation with his general counsel. "By early this afternoon, I had sufficient evidence to conclude that while employed by this office, my Chief of Staff had violated office policies regarding proper relations between a supervisor and their subordinates," Rubio said. Rubio said he traveled from Florida to Washington on Saturday night to terminate Reed's employment effective immediately. His office has also "taken steps to ensure that those impacted by this conduct have access to any services they may require now or in the future," he said." (*Politico*, 1/28/18)

Republican Associations – Establishment And GOP Elites

Overall

Rubio Is Known To Have Previously Led "GOP Elites" On Immigration And Hispanic Issues. "There's even a case to be made that Rubio might be a likelier Republican nominee in 2016 if his lily-white party hasn't addressed its policy problems with Hispanics. What's not in doubt is his influence. The legislation's fate in the Republican-controlled House as well as the Senate may depend on Rubio's blessing. GOP elites often follow his lead on Hispanic issues; the party's presidential candidates all boycotted a proposed Univision debate after he got into a spat with the network, and Ryan endorsed his immigration principles the day he announced them." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

Jeb Bush

Rubio Is Known To Have Once Counted Jeb Bush As His Political Mentor. "Rubio says he has no idea what he'll do in 2016—run for re-election, "run for something else" or return to the private sector. Some insiders remain dubious that he'll seek the "something else" route so early in his career. He's had some awkward personal-finance issues. One of his closest friends and allies, former Congressman David Rivera, is embroiled in a corruption scandal. And his political mentor, Jeb Bush, might seek the White House himself. Their friends assume Rubio would defer

in that case, though it was curious that when I asked him whether he had discussed his immigration work with Bush, who has a book coming out on the subject, he said he sent a text message." (*Time*, 2/7/13)

- **Rubio Is Also Known To Have Been Closely Linked To Bush Loyalist Al Cardenas, Who Was Rubio's First Boss After Law School.** "His political career began during his last term in law school when he ran Dade County's efforts for Bob Dole's presidential campaign. The job brought him into contact with men who would shape his political career: Al Cardenas, a prominent lawyer and later the state GOP chairman; Al Lorenzo, a campaign manager who was becoming Dade County's kingmaker; and Jeb Bush, the ex-president's son and future Florida governor. After Dole lost, Rubio went to work for Cardenas's law firm, Tew Cardenas. At that time, he met a former Dolphins cheerleader named Jeanette Dousdebes, a gorgeous Colombian-American with long blond hair. They married in 1998. That same year, he decided to run for city commission in West Miami, a hamlet of 5,800 people tucked south of Tamiami Trail and west of Red Road." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Bush Prominently Backed And Defended Rubio During His 2010 Senate Campaign Against Crist; Many Considered "Rubio To Be Jeb Bush's Ideological Heir. At Mr. Rubio's Swearing In As Florida House Speaker In 2006, Mr. Bush Told A Story About "Chang The Mystical Warrior" Of Conservative Causes Before Presenting Mr. Rubio With A Golden "Sword Of The Conservative Warrior."'" "Gov. Crist's campaign has also gone after Mr. Rubio for double billing state taxpayers and the Republican Party of Florida for eight flights while he was speaker of the house, a screw-up Mr. Rubio calls an "unfortunate" but honest error. A few weeks ago, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush finally broke his silence in the Crist-Rubio battle. He called Mr. Crist's support for the Obama stimulus spending bill "unforgivable" and a "mistake," saying the bill was more about advancing a permanent left-wing agenda than meeting an economic emergency. It's been a long time coming for those who consider Mr. Rubio to be Jeb Bush's ideological heir. At Mr. Rubio's swearing in as Florida house speaker in 2006, Mr. Bush told a story about "Chang the mystical warrior" of conservative causes before presenting Mr. Rubio with a golden "sword of the conservative warrior." From the popular two-term governor, Mr. Rubio says he learned that policy has to come from principle. "You're going to get criticized. You're not always going to please everybody," he says. But "even people who disagree with you will ultimately respect the fact that they knew where you stood.'" (*The Wall Street Journal*, 3/13/10)



(*Politico*, 1/15/15)

"It's Certainly True That Bush And Rubio Admire And Support One Another. Rubio's First Job Out Of Law School Was With The Firm Of Al Cardenas, The Cuban-Born Miami Lawyer Who Was Already Close To Bush And Later Became His State Party Chairman. Bush Donated To Rubio's First Run For Elective Office, A West Miami City Commission Seat In 1998, The Same Year Bush Was Elected Governor. Bush Introduced Rubio At His Election Night Party In 2010 When He Defeated Republican-Turned-Independent Gov. Charlie Crist." "It's certainly true that Bush and Rubio admire and support one another. Rubio's first job out of law school was with the firm of Al Cardenas, the Cuban-born Miami lawyer who was already close to Bush and later became his state party chairman. Bush donated to Rubio's first run for elective office, a West Miami city commission seat in 1998, the same year Bush was elected governor. Bush introduced Rubio at his election night party in 2010 when he defeated Republican-turned-independent Gov. Charlie Crist. But "mentor" in the traditional sense of working closely with a younger colleague? That did not really happen. In fact, Bush's archived emails suggest that for most of the seven years the two men shared in Tallahassee, their relationship was similar to those Bush had with all the other lawmakers outside of the House and Senate presiding officers. In spring of 2002, Rubio met with Bush about a $750,000 state grant request for West Miami's sewage plant. The grant nevertheless wound up on the list of projects Bush would veto. In 2003, Rubio helped Miami with a $200,000 request to restore its historic city hall. In 2005, Bush asked for Rubio's help lobbying some Miami-Dade state senators on an education bill he wanted." (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

"Rubio Describes Bush In His 2012 Memoir An American Son As The Man He Admires Most In Florida Politics, Calling Him A "One-Man Idea Factory.'" "For his part, Rubio describes Bush in his 2012 memoir An American Son as the man he admires most in Florida politics, calling him a "one-man idea factory." But Rubio uses neither "mentor" nor "protégé" in his discussions of the governor. There are a few people who do fit that protégé description in Bush's orbit—first are his sons, George P. and Jeb Jr. The elder, George P., has already, at age

38, won statewide office in Texas, as land commissioner. (Jeb was seven years older than that before he won his first big election.) And outside Bush's family is Brian Yablonski, who might be the closest thing Bush had to an intellectual and ideological soulmate during his years in Tallahassee. Yablonski was a recent law school graduate when he went to work for Bush at his Foundation for Florida's Future between the failed 1994 bid for governor and the successful 1998 run. He co-wrote Profiles in Character, which Bush released in 1996 as he geared up for that second run. And then Yablonski wound up in Bush's governor's office as a top policy adviser. (He eventually left to raise a young family—something not easily done keeping the long hours Bush demanded of his inner circle.)" (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

"When Bush's Office Proposed That Many Of His Top-Level Policy Aides Could Go Work In Rubio's House, Rubio Was Eager To Help. Bush, In Turn, Offered To Let Rubio Place Some Of His Prospective Hires In Governor's Office Jobs Prior To His Officially Taking Over." "By the time Rubio actually started his term as Florida House speaker in November 2006, Bush had but a few weeks left in the governor's office. And it is in the year leading to that transition where the two actually worked together most closely. It turns out that another thing the two had in common beyond the "Sword of Chiang" was Charlie Crist, the (then) Republican attorney general who succeeded Bush as governor. Neither man trusted Crist to continue Bush's policies in education, taxes and other areas. (The suspicion was well-founded. Crist tried to undo a number of what Bush considered his signature, conservative achievements.) So when Bush's office proposed that many of his top-level policy aides could go work in Rubio's House, Rubio was eager to help. Bush, in turn, offered to let Rubio place some of his prospective hires in governor's office jobs prior to his officially taking over. "We can also offer Speaker Rubio the chance to provide jobs in the executive as early as now for people he is recruiting," Bush wrote a top aide just days after the sword ceremony." (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

- **"In All, Rubio Hired 18 Of Bush's Top Advisers—More Than He Actually Had Openings For. To Make Room, 10 House Staffers, Some With Years Of Experience, Were Told They Would No Longer Have Jobs."** "In all, Rubio hired 18 of Bush's top advisers—more than he actually had openings for. To make room, 10 House staffers, some with years of experience, were told they would no longer have jobs. The Bush contingent also kept their six-figure salaries when they transitioned over—generating considerable resentment among legislative staff, for whom that level of compensation is pretty rare. That 2006 gubernatorial contest marked an end to two and a half decades of significant Jeb Bush roles in Florida's elections. From 1980 forward, there were only three November elections when he did not have a personal interest in the outcome, whether as the campaign chairman (Gov. Bob Martinez, 1990), the son of a vice presidential or presidential candidate (1980, 1984, 1988, 1992), the brother of a presidential candidate (2000, 2004) or the gubernatorial candidate himself (1994, 1998, 2002). But in the election to replace him, it was clear that whether Democrat Jim Davis or Republican Charlie Crist won, Bush's successor would not feel at all committed to preserving his legacy. And so Rubio's role in 2007 was in part as a vessel for keeping Bush's people at some of the levers of power, even after his own departure. For Bush, in the absence of an actual protégé to succeed him, it was the next best thing." (*Politico*, 1/15/15)

Jeb Bush Has Noted That Rubio "Followed [His] Lead" While He Was Governor. "From the start, Rubio made crucial alliances with politically powerful Cuban exiles. Rubio scored his first electoral victory in 1998, a seat on the West Miami City Commission, with a game-changing assist from a local power broker, Mayor Rebeca Sosa. Sosa, today a commissioner with Miami-Dade County, pointed out that she had been born in Camaguey, the same province as Rubio's mother, Oria. "I first met Oria, who was always active in the [West Miami] community at meetings here," Sosa tells me. "Then her son Marco introduced himself to me. I knew from the start that he was ready for bigger things." Two years later, having astutely worked Miami's Cuban politics, Rubio was seated in the Florida House, representing a lopsided district that included blue-collar Cuban Hialeah, the largely African-American and Dominican neighborhood of Allapattah and tony Coral Gables. That same year, Jeb Bush assumed office as governor, marking the first time since Reconstruction that the GOP controlled the governor's mansion, the Florida House and its Senate. "At that point, Jeb Bush was a god," says Dan Gelber, who served eight years in the Florida House, including as the Democratic leader, working amicably with Rubio. And Rubio, Gelber says, went from "being a foot soldier for Jeb Bush to becoming a lieutenant in Jeb's army." The Rubio-Jeb pecking order of those years is something Bush has been making clear of late. "Marco was a member of the House of Representatives when I was governor," Bush pointedly remarked in early October, as his mentee passed him in the polls, "and he followed my lead." These days, Gelber says he thinks of Jeb Bush not only as Rubio's political commander-in-chief but what he calls a "frenenmentor—friend, enemy and mentor."' (*Politico*, 11/2015)

George W. Bush And Dick Cheney

Rubio, In 2012: "George W. Bush, In My Opinion, Did A Fantastic Job As President Over Eight Years." "If Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) overcomes his objections and agrees to join Mitt Romney's 2012 ticket, I have a strong hunch this quote will become one of the more important tidbits of the year. "George W. Bush, in my opinion, did a fantastic job as president over eight years." In some Republican circles, many on the right choose to explain the spectacular failures of the Bush/Cheney era by saying the former president wasn't really a conservative, so his fiascos shouldn't be held against the conservative movement. After all, they argue, he was a liberal on spending, a moderate on immigration and education, a big-government advocate on entitlements like Medicare, and even a supporter of civil unions for gay and lesbian couples. Sure, Bush failed, the argument goes, but only because he wasn't a real conservative. Indeed, go back and look at the transcripts from the Republican presidential candidates debates over the last year -- when Bush's name came up, it was only to criticize his breaks with party orthodoxy on everything from deficits to No Child Left Behind to Medicare Part D. But while that was the standard line for quite a while, the tide appears to have turned. Rubio thinks Bush did "a fantastic job"; the Republican National Committee believes the party's agenda in 2013 will simply be a warmed over version of Bush's policies; and Romney has surrounded himself with Bush's former aides and advisors." (NBC News, 4/25/12)

In 2011, Rubio Announced That He Picked Cesar Conda "A Former Economic Adviser To Mitt Romney And Aide To Vice President Dick Cheney To Serve As His Chief Of Staff." "Sen. Marco Rubio announced Friday that he's tapped a former economic adviser to Mitt

Romney and aide to Vice President Dick Cheney to serve as his chief of staff. "After a long and exhaustive search, I am pleased to announce that Cesar Conda has agreed to come on board as my chief of staff," announced Rubio in a press release. Rubio's office was bombarded with applications to work for the conservative superstar. In early January, Rubio announced his picks for senior staff after receiving more than 1,000 applications for 54 jobs with their office. But Rubio did not name his top staffer until this week: Conda, one of his top aides on the campaign and with the official transition team." (*Politico*, 1/28/11)

- **"Conda Previously Served As An Assistant To Vice President Dick Cheney On Domestic Policy, A Top Aide For Former Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-Mich.), Plus Advised Two Presidential Campaigns Including, Most Recently, Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's Bid For The White House In 2008."** "Conda previously served as an assistant to Vice President Dick Cheney on domestic policy, a top aide for former Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-Mich.), plus advised two presidential campaigns including, most recently, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's bid for the White House in 2008. The son of Cuban parents, Rubio rose to national political fame last year by forcing a popular, moderate Republican governor out of the primary, then resoundingly defeating him in the general election. Often hailed as the new face of the GOP, he's mentioned as a possible presidential or vice presidential candidate — although he has denied an interest in either gig in the 2012 cycle." (*Politico*, 1/28/11)

- **By 2014, Conda Went On To "Lead Rubio's Reclaim America PAC As A Senior Adviser. Conda Will Remain As A Part-Time Adviser In Rubio's Senate Office."** "The chief of staff for Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) is stepping down post to become an adviser to Rubio's political-action committee, part of a series of staff changes announced Friday that will add to speculation about the freshman senator's plans for 2016. The departure of Cesar Conda, a longtime GOP insider who once worked for Vice President Dick Cheney, is the latest sign that Rubio is staffing up his political shop ahead of the 2016 presidential race. Rubio in recent weeks has openly discussed his political future, saying he will wait until next year to decide whether to run for president or for reelection in 2016. Florida law bars candidates from running in more than one race — but the moves announced Friday add to speculation that Rubio is leaning towards running for the White House. Rubio said in a release Friday that Conda, who has served as his chief of staff since 2011, will lead Rubio's Reclaim America PAC as a senior adviser. Conda will remain as a part-time adviser in Rubio's Senate office. Conda is a veteran Republican operative with deep connections across the GOP political and policy spectrum. He has spent his tenure helping develop Rubio's economic and foreign policies after previously serving as Dick Cheney's domestic policy adviser; as a top aide to former Sens. Spencer Abraham (R-Mich.) and Robert Kasten (R-Wis.); and as a policy adviser to the 1996 Dole-Kemp presidential campaign." (*Washington Post*, 4/11/14)

Mitt Romney

Rubio Is Known Have Been Vetted As A Potential Running Mate For Mitt Romney In 2012 Prior To The Selection Of Paul Ryan; At The Time, Romney's Team Found Nothing Disqualifying Regarding Rubio. "A longtime top aide to Mitt Romney is pushing back against charges from the Jeb Bush campaign that Romney came across unflattering information about

Marco Rubio when he was vetted for the VP slot in 2012. On Thursday evening, U.S. News published a 112-page document that the Bush campaign provided to donors at a retreat earlier this month in Houston. The document highlights the campaign's plans to target Rubio, calling him a "risky bet." At one point, the document says that "Those who have looked into Marco's background in the past have been concerned with what they have found." U.S. News, citing an anonymous Bush aide, said the reference was to "concerns Mitt Romney's team unearthed when they vetted Rubio for vice president in 2012." Rubio was among those considered for the VP slot, which ultimately went to now-House Speaker Paul Ryan. Yet, in an email to POLITICO, Beth Myers, a longtime Romney political adviser who in 2012 oversaw his vice presidential search, pushed back on the assertion. "As the senior Romney advisor who handled VP vetting and had access to all the vetting documents, I can say that Senator Rubio 'passed' our vetting and we found nothing that disqualified him from serving as VP," wrote Myers, who counts herself a Bush supporter. "The Bush aide referred to in this article is simply wrong." Spokespersons for Bush did not respond to a request for comment." (*Politico*, 10/29/15)

- **"Mitt Romney Told Reporters Here Tuesday That His Vice Presidential Search Team Is Vetting Sen. Marco Rubio (Fla.), Revealing That One Of The Republican Party's Biggest Young Stars Is Under Consideration To Be His Running Mate."** "Mitt Romney told reporters here Tuesday that his vice presidential search team is vetting Sen. Marco Rubio (Fla.), revealing that one of the Republican Party's biggest young stars is under consideration to be his running mate. "Marco Rubio is being thoroughly vetted as part of our process," Romney said after gathering a press pool for an unannounced campaign stop in Michigan. Romney's comments came after ABC News reported that his search team had not asked Rubio to complete a questionnaire or submit any personal financial documents. One outside Romney adviser confirmed that report to The Washington Post later Tuesday, though the adviser left open the possibility that Romney officials could thoroughly vet Rubio at a later date. Romney strongly denied the ABC report, which was attributed to two anonymous sources. "I can't imagine who such people are," the presidential candidate told reporters. "But I can tell you this: They know nothing about the vice presidential selection or evaluation process. There are only two people in this country who know who are being vetted and who are not, and that's Beth Myers and myself. And I know Beth well. She doesn't talk to anybody. The story was entirely false.'" (*Washington Post*, 6/19/12)

Paul Singer

Rubio Is Known To Have Been Boosted By Moderate GOP Mega Donor Paul Singer. "On June 14, another embarrassing lapse tainted Rubio's credentials as a financial reformer. Deutsche Bank filed a suit in Leon County to foreclose on a house he owned just outside Tallahassee with David Rivera — his loyal lieutenant in the House and now a candidate for U.S. Congress. The pair had missed five months of payments on the home, which they had bought for $135,000 in 2005. The foreclosure was dropped a week later when Rubio and Rivera repaid $9,525 to the bank. Rubio says they had stopped paying over a dispute in interest rates. For the past month, Rubio has traveled the state every week trying to reharness the energy that helped him topple Crist. He has turned again to the same themes that define his political life: escape from Cuba and belief in small government. And he has raised even more money. He recently attended a massive

New York fundraiser hosted by hedge fund manager Paul Singer the same night Congress passed new financial reforms. Plus he pulled in more than $4.5 million in the last quarter, four times Meek's fundraising." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

Club For Growth

Rubio Was Significantly Boosted By The Club For Growth During His 2010 U.S. Senate Campaign. "In his bid to unseat Crist, Rubio has also raised more than $11 million and counting. About $100,000 of that cash has come from political action committees, including the anti-tax Club for Growth, his largest individual donor. Then there are the big businesses he helped as speaker: Florida Crystals, State Farm, and a host of developers. With the money and national exposure, Rubio's poll numbers soared throughout early 2010. By April, he'd sunk Crist into an almost 30-point hole among primary voters. On April 29, at a hastily called news conference in a St. Petersburg park, the governor abandoned the Republican Party." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

- **VIDEO: In 2009, The Club For Growth Underscored Its Endorsement And Support For Rubio.** (YouTube, 11/23/09)



(YouTube, 11/23/09)

In 2015, Club For Growth President David McIntosh Touted Rubio As A "Real Deal" Presidential Candidate And Noted Rubio "Has A Consistent Record Of Supporting Policies Like Free Trade And Tort Reform, And He Supports Common Sense Regulatory Reforms." "The first major test for the 2016 Republican presidential candidates is Thursday. The 2016 GOP field is the most pro-growth in recent history. There are a number of qualified candidates who have put forth ideas and a vision for restoring the economic growth and freedom our country so desperately needs after suffering for eight long and bleak years under Barack

Obama's feckless leadership. These ideas include reducing the size of government, cutting taxes, repealing and replacing Obamacare, free market reforms, and moving the country forward with free trade. Here is our assessment of the major candidates going into the Fox debate. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul: The Gold Standard U.S. Sens. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul are "the real deal" candidates, the gold standard of the race. Sen. Cruz particularly excels when it comes to stopping job-crippling regulations and promoting pro-growth energy exploration. He's also shown extraordinary determination in the fight against Obamacare. Sen. Rubio has drafted a pro-growth tax cut and reform plan that would fundamentally reform the tax code and the entitlement state. He also has a consistent record of supporting policies like free trade and tort reform, and he supports common sense regulatory reforms." (David McIntosh, Op-Ed, *USA Today*, 8/5/15)

- **Of Note, In The Same Piece, McIntosh Labeled Trump As Among The Candidates He Considered "Utter Disasters."** "Chris Christie, John Kasich, Mike Huckabee and Donald Trump: Utter Disasters New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's support for free markets seems to go out the window when it comes to big business. His record on spending is mediocre, and some of his stances on entitlements, such as his support for Obamacare's Medicaid expansion, will create economic headaches for his state in the years to come. Like Christie, Ohio Gov. John Kasich's decision to expand Medicaid was a costly mistake, as Medicaid enrollment in Ohio has far outpaced Kasich's projections and more than doubled in cost. Kasich has also presided over significant increases in state spending. Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee has yet to take responsibility for the exorbitant rise in taxes and government spending that he championed as governor and that gave him the "Tax-Hike Mike" moniker. Donald Trump has tapped into a well of unchanneled frustration in America, but he's not a serious candidate. His past positions, including support for tax increases and universal healthcare, actually make him a more suitable candidate in the Democratic primary or maybe even as Hillary Clinton's running mate. The biggest issue in the election is growing America's economy so our future is brighter than our present or recent past. The Fox debate should clarify for voters which candidates will best ensure that future." (David McIntosh, Op-Ed, *USA Today*, 8/5/15)

Democratic Associations And Defenses

Joe Biden

VIDEO: On Inauguration Day, In January 2021, Rubio Acknowledges Biden As "Our New President" And Calls Him A "Man Of Tremendous Empathy"; Rubio Notes That He Prays God Will Bless Biden With Health, Strength, And Wisdom. (Twitter, 1/20/21)



(Twitter, 1/20/21)

Rubio, In January 2021: "Joe Biden Is Now Our President, A Position Held By Only 44 Other Americans In History. It Is The Single Most Powerful Job In The World, And The Most Serious Challenge He Will Face Is Leading A Bitterly Divided Country." "Joe Biden is now our president, a position held by only 44 other Americans in history. It is the single most powerful job in the world, and the most serious challenge he will face is leading a bitterly divided country. In his inaugural speech, Biden extended an olive branch to the 74 million Americans who voted for President Trump. This is important, but that alone will not "Make America Normal Again." Tens of millions of Americans don't want to go back to a "normal" that left them feeling forgotten and left behind. They want an America where everyone can find a good job, get married, live in a safe neighborhood, raise a family and retire with dignity. But that is now out of reach for millions in our nation. It was important for President Biden to acknowledge those anxieties today. But addressing them will require serious action. The Green New Deal and tax hikes may be part of a far-left wish list, but they are not a unifying agenda to heal the soul of our nation." (Fox News, 1/20/21)

Barack Obama

In 2010, Rubio Was Reported By The *Miami New Times* As Having Pushed Back Against A Voter's Contention That, Regarding The Deepwater Horizon Disaster, The Obama Administration Was "Intentionally Dragging Their Feet On This Disaster For Its Own Political Agenda." "On a recent summer day, about 100 Rubio supporters crowd into a chic Tampa deli with sharply angled wine racks along exposed brick walls. They turn their heads toward a denim-clad, middle-aged woman whose eyes narrow suspiciously as she grills Rubio

about the Gulf oil spill: "The Obama administration is intentionally dragging their feet on this disaster," she insists loudly, "for its own political agenda." Rubio tugs at his ring finger and shakes his head. "I don't think the president is intentionally prolonging this disaster. I do think there's a lack of competence in how they're addressing it." In the two months since Rubio achieved his greatest political victory — forcing Crist to drop out of the GOP primary to run as an independent — the former speaker has moved rapidly toward the middle on issues such as the oil spill." (Miami New Times, 7/22/10)

In 2016, "Sen. Marco Rubio Begged His Republican Colleagues Tuesday To Fully Fund President Obama's Nearly $2 Billion Request To Combat The Zika Virus, Saying It Is Really "The Scientists' Request" And That Congress Can Easily Backfill The Money If It Shows The Will." "Sen. Marco Rubio begged his Republican colleagues Tuesday to fully fund President Obama's nearly $2 billion request to combat the Zika virus, saying it is really "the scientists' request" and that Congress can easily backfill the money if it shows the will. Mr. Rubio, a Florida Republican whose state faces a serious outbreak, has broken with the GOP caucus and supported the $1.9 billion package favored by the White House. The administration wants to treat that money as emergency spending akin to hurricane relief and tack it onto the deficit. Mr. Rubio's willingness to follow that plan puts him at odds with conservative groups who've demanded that any Zika funding be offset by cuts elsewhere in the budget. "We can do that, we should do that, I'm in favor of doing that," he said of finding the cuts. But he said it would be "short-sighted" to wait any longer or "low-ball" the U.S. response to Zika, which is causing birth defects in Latin America. Florida accounts for about one in five of the 500 travel-related cases of Zika recorded in the U.S. so far, and the mosquito-borne virus could swirl on its own once temperatures climb. Mr. Rubio also supports a bipartisan plan to pony up $1.1 billion for the Zika fight, although he argued it is a less attractive approach. "Why are we taking this chance? It makes absolutely no sense," he said. Mr. Rubio's break with fellow Republicans comes just two months after he ran as a conservative candidate for president. The Floridian lobbied to pay for the Zika package down the road, saying $2 billion for an emergency — unlike entitlement spending — is hardly a major driver for the nation's $18 trillion debt, so it shouldn't be hard to find the money. He also urged lawmakers to divorce the administration from the actual funding request. "Fine, it came from the White House," he said. "But it's really the scientists' requests, the doctors' request, the public health sector's request for how to address this issue.'" (*Washington Times*, 5/17/16)

Squad Members

Rubio: "I Disagree 100% With Reps. Tlaib & Omar On #Israel & Am The Author Of The #Antibds Bill We Passed In The Senate But Denying Them Entry Into #Israel Is A Mistake. Being Blocked Is What They Really Hoped For All Along In Order To Bolster Their Attacks Against The Jewish State." (Twitter, 8/15/19)


Marco Rubio
@marcorubio
I disagree 100% with Reps. Tlaib & Omar on #Israel & am the author of the #AntiBDS bill we passed in the Senate
But denying them entry into #Israel is a mistake.
Being blocked is what they really hoped for all along in order to bolster their attacks against the Jewish state.
2:05 PM · Aug 15, 2019

(Twitter, 8/15/19)

Florida State Democratic Legislators

While Serving As Speaker, "In A Surprising Departure From House Protocol, [Rubio] Granted Requests By Gelber (The Democratic Leader) To Make His Own Appointments To Committees As Well As To Control His Caucus's Offices And Parking Spaces – The Cudgels Of Legislative Power." "FOR EIGHT YEARS, Jeb Bush who left office in January 2007, as Rubio was beginning his speakership had taken a domineering approach to managing affairs in Tallahassee. Rubio's style of leading turned out to be quite different. In a surprising departure from House protocol, he granted requests by Gelber (the Democratic leader) to make his own appointments to committees as well as to control his caucus's offices and parking spaces the cudgels of legislative power. Most important, Gelber says, he honored Democrats' right to voice opposition: "I would say, 'I have an amendment that we're going to speak on and we're going to spend an hour calling you guys rat bastards,' and he would say, 'Do you think you could do it in 30 minutes?'" While Rubio was not above yanking a dissident member's parking space or reassigning someone to a closet-sized office, retribution was not routine. Unlike some of his predecessors, he was not cloistered in the speaker's office. He made an effort to eat with members in the cafeteria and talk to them about their bills as well as their families. "That's the first thing-when you can demonstrate a real interest in people and empower them to be successful," Baxley told me. "This is an atmosphere where it's easy to get caught in a culture that says, 'It's all about me.'"" (*National Journal*, 7/10/15)

Miscellaneous

2016 Campaign Flip-Flop

In June 2016, Rubio Announced That He Would "Seek Reelection To The Senate, Reversing A Pledge He Made A Year Ago To Either Assume The Presidency Or Return To Private Life In Florida." "Sen. Marco Rubio said Wednesday he will seek reelection to the Senate, reversing a pledge he made a year ago to either assume the presidency or return to private life in Florida. The decision instantly transforms an already competitive race and improves Republicans' chances of maintaining the Senate majority. Rubio (R-Fla.) issued a

lengthy statement explaining his decision to reverse course, citing the Senate's power to "act as a check and balance on the excesses of a president" as a central reason. "Control of the Senate may very well come down to the race in Florida," he said. "That means the future of the Supreme Court will be determined by the Florida Senate seat. It means the future of the disastrous Iran nuclear deal will be determined by the Florida Senate seat. It means the direction of our country's fiscal and economic policies will be determined by this Senate seat. The stakes for our nation could not be higher." His entry into the race comes shortly before a Friday deadline for candidate filings and after weeks of pressure from national GOP figures who urged Rubio to reconsider his frequently repeated intention to either become president or a "private citizen" come 2017. Those entreaties were rooted in blunt political reality: Rubio, with his near-universal name recognition and proven fundraising capacity, would give Republicans their best chance of winning the swing-state seat and, perhaps, retaining the Senate majority. "I think it moves Florida from a likely loss to an almost certain pickup, and so it's not only important to Florida, it has a huge impact on our ability to hold the majority," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), who played a leading role in persuading Rubio to run, said on Wednesday. Josh Holmes, a political consultant who is close to McConnell, said Rubio's decision will allow national Republican groups to shift resources to other competitive races across the country. "It is hard to overstate how important this development is for every Republican-held seat, given that this could take the most expensive state to defend entirely off the map," Holmes said. "This is a massive win for Florida, America and the Grand Old Party." The decision to continue his career in elective politics comes barely three months after Rubio, 45, ended his presidential campaign after an embarrassing loss in his home-state primary, finishing nearly 20 points behind Donald Trump and winning only one county outright — his home base of Miami-Dade. But the handful of candidates seeking to succeed him in the Senate each struggled to break out as Rubio sent a series of signals that he might be willing to seek reelection." (*Washington Post*, 6/22/16)

PERSONAL AND BACKGROUND ISSUES

Family Issues – Immigration Controversies And Scandals

Controversy – Rubio's Embellishment Of Family Emigration From Cuba

In 2011, An Analysis Of Documents Indicated That Rubio Had Been Embellishing His Family's Emigration Story From Cuba; Rather Than Being The "Son Of Exiles" From Castro's Cuba, Rubio Was A Son Of More Conventional Immigrants Seeking A Better Life Who Arrived Years Before Castro's Rise. "During his rise to political prominence, Sen. Marco Rubio frequently repeated a compelling version of his family's history that had special resonance in South Florida. He was the "son of exiles," he told audiences, Cuban Americans forced off their beloved island after "a thug," Fidel Castro, took power. But a review of documents — including naturalization papers and other official records — reveals that the Florida Republican's account embellishes the facts. The documents show that Rubio's parents came to the United States and were admitted for permanent residence more than two-and-a-half years before Castro's forces overthrew the Cuban government and took power on New Year's Day 1959. The supposed flight of Rubio's parents has been at the core of the young senator's political identity, both before and after his stunning tea-party-propelled victory in last year's Senate election. Rubio

— now considered a prospective 2012 Republican vice presidential candidate and a possible future presidential contender — mentions his parents in the second sentence of the official biography on his Senate Web site. It says that Mario and Oriales Rubio "came to America following Fidel Castro's takeover." And the 40-year-old senator with the boyish smile and prom-king good looks has drawn on the power of that claim to entrance audiences captivated by the rhetorical skills of one of the more dynamic stump speakers in modern American politics. The real story of his parents' migration appears to be a more conventional immigrant narrative, a couple who came to the United States seeking a better life. In the year they arrived in Florida, the future Marxist dictator was in Mexico plotting a quixotic return to Cuba. Rubio's office confirmed Thursday that his parents arrived in the United States in 1956 but noted that "while they were prepared to live here permanently, they always held out the hope and the option of returning to Cuba if things improved." They returned to Cuba several times after Castro came to power to "assess the situation with the hope of eventually moving back," the office said in a statement." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **Rubio Blamed The Inconsistencies On Family Lore; He Had Been Prominently Identifying As A Member Of The Cuban Exile Community For Several Years Including In A 2006 Speech That Marked His Political Ascent.** "In a brief interview Thursday, Rubio said his accounts have been based on family lore. "I'm going off the oral history of my family," he said. "All of these documents and passports are not things that I carried around with me." He said of his parents: "They were from Cuba. They wanted to live in Cuba again. They tried to live in Cuba again, and the reality of what it was made that impossible." In 2006, on the eve of his rise to speaker of the Florida House, Rubio told an audience that "in January of 1959, a thug named Fidel Castro took power in Cuba and countless Cubans were forced to flee and come here, many — most — here to America. When they arrived, they were welcomed by the most compassionate people on all the Earth." Wearing a red flower in his lapel, his voice sometimes emotional, he praised those who fled, calling them "a great generation." But he also assured them: "Today your children and grandchildren are the secretary of commerce of the United States and multiple members of Congress, they are the CEO of Fortune 500 companies and successful entrepreneurs, they are Grammy-winning artists and they are renowned journalists, they are a United States senator and soon, even speaker of the Florida House." The speech drew heavy coverage in Florida, as it was a momentous event. Rubio was the first Cuban American to become speaker of the Florida House. In Florida, being connected to the post-revolution exile community gives a politician cachet that could never be achieved by someone identified with the pre-Castro exodus, a group sometimes viewed with suspicion." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **Additionally, In 2009, Rubio Claimed His Parents Had Immigrated To America In 1959 – In Line With Castro's Takeover.** "Rubio emerged as a national political figure in 2009 when he took on Charlie Crist, a once-popular Republican Florida governor, in a heated Senate race. Crist was forced to run as an independent because of Rubio's surge. In a television interview on Fox Business, Rubio spelled out the central message of his campaign, saying: "I believe limited government has made America the most prosperous people in the history of the world." Then he pivoted to the theme that had served him so well. "And I think that the direction we're going in Washington, D.C., would make us

more like the rest of the world, and not like the exceptional nation that my parents found when they came here from Cuba in 1959, and the nation they worked in so hard so that I could inherit." Research editor Alice Crites contributed to this report." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **VIDEO: In 2009, Rubio Speaks In The Florida House And Claims That He Is A Descendant Of Cuban Exiles Noting "No Matter What Titles I May Achieve In My Life, I Will Always Be The Son Of Exiles."** (YouTube, 3/27/09)



(YouTube, 3/27/09)

Rubio's Recounting Of His Family's Background Has Shifted Overtime; Documents Indicate A More Conventional Immigration Story Due To Economic And Not Political Reasons. "When Rubio's parents left the island, Cuban migration to the United States was a trickle compared with what it would become in the years after Castro's victory. "The vast majority of people who emigrated in the '50s went for economic reasons, not for political reasons," said Maria Cristina Garcia, an expert on Cuban migration at Cornell University. Multiple documents signed by Rubio's parents, including their petitions for naturalization, show that Mario and Oriales Rubio arrived in the United States on May 27, 1956, with their son Mario, 6. Maternal grandfather Pedro Victor Garcia also came to the United States around the same time. Marco Rubio has said that his father left Cuba after enduring hardships, including the loss of his mother when he was young. Rubio has described the death in moving terms, although details have changed in his accounts. In February 2010, during Rubio's electric speech to the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington, he said that his grandmother died

when his father was 6 and that "the day after her funeral, he went to work selling coffee in the streets of Havana." Seven months later, when his father died in the midst of Rubio's Senate campaign, Rubio wrote in an open letter that his father lost his mother when he was "just days shy of his ninth birthday." The Social Security numbers for Rubio's father and grandfather suggest that Mario Rubio received his Social Security number in Florida in 1956 and that Garcia received his in New York in 1956-57. What's known of their lives in the United States comes primarily from Marco Rubio's speeches and writings. He talks and writes lovingly of his father, telling of the family's regular Sunday trips to the International House of Pancakes and how his father managed equipment for his Pop Warner football team. His father was a bartender and school crossing guard; his mother worked as a hotel maid and stocking shelves at Kmart. The family was itinerant, according to the senator, living at various times in New York and Los Angeles and spending several years in Las Vegas. But it appears that most of their time was spent in the Miami area, where a 1958 city directory shows a Mario Rubio employed at the luxurious Roney Plaza Hotel. In one 2010 interview with Fox News's Sean Hannity, Marco Rubio seemed uncertain about the date of his parents' arrival, saying, "My parents and grandparents came here from Cuba in '58, '59." None of the public statements reviewed by The Washington Post gave 1956 as their arrival date. The senator's office tried to clarify the facts in its statement Thursday. After coming to the United States in 1956, Rubio's parents visited Cuba after Castro's takeover. In 1961, Oriales Rubio took her two children to Cuba "with the intention of remaining permanently." Mario remained in Florida "wrapping up the family's matters." But within weeks of arriving, "it because clear that Cuba was headed full speed toward Communism and they decided to return to the U.S," the statement said. Rubio's staff allowed The Post to examine copies of his parents' passports. They showed that between the couple's admission for permanent U.S. residence and Castro's victory on Jan. 1, 1959, his father spent five days in Cuba and his mother spent no more than two months and three days there. The passports show that Rubio's mother made at least four short trips to the island after Castro's victory, including a month-long stay in February and March 1961. Marco Rubio was born 10 years later in Miami. The next year, his older brother, Mario, petitioned for naturalization. The document, signed by their father, says Mario Rubio was "lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on May 27, 1956." The entry date coincides with a notarized "Declaration of Domicile" — filed in Dade County Circuit Court by their father in 1974 . It states that "I . . . am and have been a bona fide resident of the state of Florida since the 27th day of May, 1956.'" (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

Following Publication Of The *Washington Post* Report, Rubio Angrily Attacked The Reporting As "An Outrageous Allegation That Is Not Only Incorrect, But An Insult To The Sacrifices My Parents Made To Provide A Better Life For Their Children"; However, Rubio Conceded That The Report Did Capture The Facts About His Family's Immigration Timeline And Circumstances. "The Washington Post on Friday accused me of seeking political advantage by embellishing the story of how my parents arrived in the United States. That is an outrageous allegation that is not only incorrect, but an insult to the sacrifices my parents made to provide a better life for their children. They claim I did this because "being connected to the post-revolution exile community gives a politician cachet that could never be achieved by someone identified with the pre-Castro exodus, a group sometimes viewed with suspicion." If

The Washington Post wants to criticize me for getting a few dates wrong, I accept that. But to call into question the central and defining event of my parents' young lives – the fact that a brutal communist dictator took control of their homeland and they were never able to return – is something I will not tolerate. My understanding of my parents' journey has always been based on what they told me about events that took place more than 50 years ago — more than a decade before I was born. What they described was not a timeline, or specific dates. They talked about their desire to find a better life, and the pain of being separated from the nation of their birth. What they described was the struggle they faced growing up, and their obsession with giving their children the chance to do the things they never could. But the Post story misses the point completely. The real essence of my family's story is not about the date my parents first entered the United States. Or whether they traveled back and forth between the two nations. Or even the date they left Fidel Castro's Cuba forever and permanently settled here. The essence of my family story is why they came to America in the first place; and why they had to stay. I now know that they entered the U.S. legally on an immigration visa in May of 1956. Not, as some have said before, as part of some special privilege reserved only for Cubans. They came because they wanted to achieve things they could not achieve in their native land. And they stayed because, after January 1959, the Cuba they knew disappeared. They wanted to go back — and in fact they did. Like many Cubans, they initially held out hope that Castro's revolution would bring about positive change. So after 1959, they traveled back several times — to assess the prospect of returning home. In February 1961, my mother took my older siblings to Cuba with the intention of moving back. My father was wrapping up family matters in Miami and was set to join them. But after just a few weeks, it became clear that the change happening in Cuba was not for the better. It was communism. So in late March 1961, just weeks before the Bay of Pigs invasion, my mother and siblings left Cuba and my family settled permanently in the United States. Soon after, Castro officially declared Cuba a Marxist state. My family has never been able to return. I am the son of immigrants and exiles, raised by people who know all too well that you can lose your country. By people who know firsthand that America is a very special place. My father spent the last 50 years of his life separated from the nation of his birth. Separated from his two brothers, who died in Cuba in the 1980s. Unable to show us where he played baseball as a boy. Where he met my mother. Unable to visit his parents' grave. My mother has spent the last 50 years separated from her native land as well. Unable to take us to her family's farm, to her schools or to the notary office where she married my father. A few years ago, using Google Earth, I attempted to take my parents back to Cuba. We found the rooftop of the house where my father was born. What I wouldn't give to visit these places where my story really began, before I was born. One day, when Cuba is free, I will. But I wish I could have done it with my parents. The Post story misses the entire point about my family and why their story is relevant. People didn't vote for me because they thought my parents came in 1961, or 1956, or any other year. Among others things, they voted for me because, as the son of immigrants, I know how special America really is. As the son of exiles, I know how much it hurts to lose your country. Ultimately what The Post writes is not that important to me. I am the son of exiles. I inherited two generations of unfulfilled dreams. This is a story that needs no embellishing." (Marco Rubio, Op-Ed, *Politico*, 10/21/11)

Controversy – Rubio's Birthright Citizenship/ Child Of Non-U.S. Citizens

At The Time Of Rubio's 1971 Birth In Miami, Neither Of His Parents Were U.S. Citizens; Rubio's Parents Only Petitioned For Naturalization In 1975, Fifteen Years After Acquiring Permanent Residency. "Marco Rubio was born 10 years later in Miami. The next year, his older brother, Mario, petitioned for naturalization. The document, signed by their father, says Mario Rubio was "lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on May 27, 1956." The entry date coincides with a notarized "Declaration of Domicile" — filed in Dade County Circuit Court by their father in 1974 . It states that "I . . . am and have been a bona fide resident of the state of Florida since the 27th day of May, 1956." On Sept. 9, 1975, Marco Rubio's parents also petitioned for naturalization. Their petitions list the same date of admission to the United States as the petition of Rubio's brother. It is unclear why Rubio's parents waited 15 years to seek naturalization. The parents' naturalization papers have begun to circulate on the Internet as part of a "birther" controversy related to Rubio's eligibility for future presidential tickets. The controversy, which was reported this week in the St. Petersburg Times, has been compared to the frenzy surrounding President Obama's birthplace, but in reality it bears a closer resemblance to the fight over Sen. John McCain's eligibility in the 2008 election. Both the McCain squabble and the low-simmer Rubio case center on the definition of who is a "natural-born citizen." In the last presidential cycle, some suggested that McCain (R-Ariz.) was ineligible because he was born in the Panama Canal Zone. A similar claim has been made in blogs and other forums because Rubio's parents were not citizens when he was born in Florida in 1971. But legal scholars on both sides of the McCain debate told The Post that Rubio's citizenship does not appear to be an issue." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

Controversy – Rubio's Family's Trips To Castro's Cuba

Rubio's Family Is Known To Have Made Several Return Trips To Cuba After Castro Rose To Power. "The supposed flight of Rubio's parents has been at the core of the young senator's political identity, both before and after his stunning tea-party-propelled victory in last year's Senate election. Rubio — now considered a prospective 2012 Republican vice presidential candidate and a possible future presidential contender — mentions his parents in the second sentence of the official biography on his Senate Web site. It says that Mario and Oriales Rubio "came to America following Fidel Castro's takeover." And the 40-year-old senator with the boyish smile and prom-king good looks has drawn on the power of that claim to entrance audiences captivated by the rhetorical skills of one of the more dynamic stump speakers in modern American politics. The real story of his parents' migration appears to be a more conventional immigrant narrative, a couple who came to the United States seeking a better life. In the year they arrived in Florida, the future Marxist dictator was in Mexico plotting a quixotic return to Cuba. Rubio's office confirmed Thursday that his parents arrived in the United States in 1956 but noted that "while they were prepared to live here permanently, they always held out the hope and the option of returning to Cuba if things improved." They returned to Cuba several times after Castro came to power to "assess the situation with the hope of eventually moving back," the office said in a statement." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **"In 1961, Oriales Rubio Took Her Two Children To Cuba "With The Intention Of Remaining Permanently." Mario Remained In Florida "Wrapping Up The Family's Matters." But Within Weeks Of Arriving, "It Because Clear That Cuba Was Headed Full Speed Toward Communism And They Decided To Return To The U.S," The Statement Said."** "In one 2010 interview with Fox News's Sean Hannity, Marco Rubio seemed uncertain about the date of his parents' arrival, saying, "My parents and grandparents came here from Cuba in '58, '59." None of the public statements reviewed by The Washington Post gave 1956 as their arrival date. The senator's office tried to clarify the facts in its statement Thursday. After coming to the United States in 1956, Rubio's parents visited Cuba after Castro's takeover. In 1961, Oriales Rubio took her two children to Cuba "with the intention of remaining permanently." Mario remained in Florida "wrapping up the family's matters." But within weeks of arriving, "it because clear that Cuba was headed full speed toward Communism and they decided to return to the U.S," the statement said. Rubio's staff allowed The Post to examine copies of his parents' passports." (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

- **Rubio's Parents' Passports "Showed That Between The Couple's Admission For Permanent U.S. Residence And Castro's Victory On Jan. 1, 1959, His Father Spent Five Days In Cuba And His Mother Spent No More Than Two Months And Three Days There. The Passports Show That Rubio's Mother Made At Least Four Short Trips To The Island After Castro's Victory, Including A Month-Long Stay In February And March 1961."** "Rubio's staff allowed The Post to examine copies of his parents' passports. They showed that between the couple's admission for permanent U.S. residence and Castro's victory on Jan. 1, 1959, his father spent five days in Cuba and his mother spent no more than two months and three days there. The passports show that Rubio's mother made at least four short trips to the island after Castro's victory, including a month-long stay in February and March 1961. Marco Rubio was born 10 years later in Miami. The next year, his older brother, Mario, petitioned for naturalization. The document, signed by their father, says Mario Rubio was "lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on May 27, 1956." The entry date coincides with a notarized "Declaration of Domicile" — filed in Dade County Circuit Court by their father in 1974 . It states that "I . . . am and have been a bona fide resident of the state of Florida since the 27th day of May, 1956.'" (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/11)

<u>Controversy – Rubio's Grandfather's Illegal Immigration</u>

In 1962, Rubio's Grandfather, Fleeing Castro's Cuba After Having Left The United States In 1959, Attempted To Enter The United States Without Proper Credentials And Was Ordered To Be Deported Before Being Granted Status As A Parolee. "Marco Rubio's grandfather was a man without a country. Pedro Victor Garcia had left behind a home and a job with the government in communist Cuba, intent on never returning. But after his flight, Pan Am 2422 from Havana, touched down in Miami on Aug. 31, 1962, immigration officials stopped him. It had been almost three years since he had last set foot in the United States, and he no longer had the proper credentials to enter. They told him he could stay for the time being, but if he wanted to avoid deportation, he would have to plead his case. "I always thought of being here in the United States as a resident, living permanently here," the slight 62-year-old grandfather, speaking through an interpreter, said at a hearing five weeks later. He said that he had previously

returned to Cuba because he did not want to be a burden on his family in the United States, but that the Cuban government had grown too oppressive and he feared what might happen if he stayed. The immigration officer was unmoved. He did not see an exiled family man — just someone who had no visa, worked for the Castro government and could pose a security risk. "It is ordered that the applicant be excluded and deported from the United States," he said matter-of-factly, according to an audio recording of the proceedings stored by the National Archives. He stopped to ask if Mr. Garcia understood. "Yes, I do," Mr. Garcia said plaintively. That easily could have been the end of his American story. But someone in the immigration office on Biscayne Boulevard that day — the paperwork does not make clear exactly who or why — had a change of heart. Mr. Garcia was granted status as a parolee, a gray area of the law that meant he would not get a green card but could remain in the United States." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

- **AUDIO: In 1962, During An Immigration Hearing, Rubio's Grandfather Was Ordered To Be Deported.** (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)
    - **The U.S. Government Argued Rubio's Grandfather Was Not A Refugee But An Immigrant Who Gave Up His Status And Therefore In Violation Of Immigration Laws.** "Yet Pedro Victor still believes. "I wish to say that I want to be a resident because by this status I will be able to work, get a job and get some money from here and there, and not be depending on my daughters." A court official halts the proceedings to place a new disc on the Voicewriter. Less than a minute into the new recording, Milich gives Pedro Victor cause for optimism. "I take official notice the U.S. consulates in Cuba were closed in January 1961, and from that time on no person in Cuba could procure a visa to come to this country." But then Milich pivots. It turns out he agrees with the prosecutor that Pedro Victor relinquished his legal resident status by remaining outside the country for more than a year. But that isn't all. Milich says that when Pedro Victor entered the country as a "returning resident" in late 1959, he really wasn't what he said he was. Pedro Víctor had moved to Havana months earlier and could no longer be considered a resident of the United States. "Actually at that time he was on a leave of absence/paid vacation from his employment," Milich says. Milich also draws an important distinction about Pedro Victor's identity. Even though many Cubans were entering the country as refugees, the grandfather standing before him cannot be given that designation, Milich says. Because Pedro Victor is trying to come into the country as a returning resident, "he must be considered an immigrant," Milich says. In the eyes of the United States government, he is not a political exile. He is a man who has broken immigration laws. Without a refugee status, Pedro Victor has no chance. He is in an immigration catch-22 — unable to get an immigrant visa because the U.S. consulate in Havana is closed and unable to enter the United States legally because he doesn't have a visa. "The applicant is subject to exclusion . . . as an immigrant not in possession of a valid, unexpired immigrant visa." At that point, Pedro Victor is officially an undocumented immigrant, a man standing on American soil without permission to be there. Then comes the crushing blow. Milich orders "that the applicant be excluded and deported from the United States." How could a Cuban be deported under those conditions in that era? A little more than a year and a half after the Bay of Pigs invasion? After Castro's

declaration that he was a Marxist- Leninist? It turns out that in those days a small number of Cubans were still being sent back to the island for violating visa requirements." (*The Washington Post*, 6/17/12)

- **Rubio's Grandfather Had Returned To Cuba From The U.S. To Live Independently And Was Employed As A Castro Government Official Before Fleeing.** "Pedro Victor emigrated to the United States in 1956, the same year as his daughter and son-in-law, Oriales and Mario Rubio. The Rubios touched down at Miami International Airport in a National Airlines jet six months before Castro set sail for Cuba in a leaky yacht called the Granma. Pedro Victor, Oriales's father, followed a few months later. The years between Pedro Victor's arrival on U.S. soil and Castro's victory were not easy on him or his pride. He went to New York, where he found little more than odd jobs, then made his way to Florida where steady work also eluded him. He repaired shoes at his home and sometimes picked up a few extra dollars as a money collector in a parking lot. He was 60 years old and dependent on his daughters. But in Cuba, Pedro Victor thought, he could be his own man. So two years and two months after being admitted to the United States as a legal immigrant, Pedro Víctor reacheda difficult conclusion. "I had to go back to Cuba to work there because I did not want to be supported by my daughters, my sons- in-law," he later explained. On January 15, 1959, two weeks after Batista abdicated, Pedro Victor flew back to the island of his birth. For the first three months he operated a small shoe store he owned, but in March he started selling off all his stock and materials. One of his daughters' husbands offered a better option: he could get Pedro Victor a real job, a job with a salary, vacation time, reliability. Pedro Victor decided to take it. His new employer was the Castro government. The job was with Cuba's Treasury ministry. Pedro Victor later described what sounds like a low-level bureaucratic or blue-collar position. He would say that he was tasked with recording payments owed to the Treasury by bus and truck drivers. Castro's government was beginning to insinuate itself into all aspects of daily life. In 1960, it unveiled the Urban Reform Law, under which the government seized rental properties throughout the country. The law was part of a series of sweeping moves designed to impose a socialist economic structure on the nation. Rents for the tenants of apartments were slashed in half, and the tenants were promised that they would become owners of the apartments in five to twenty years." (*The Washington Post*, 6/17/12)

"Though Mr. Garcia Had Been Issued A Green Card When He Arrived In Miami Six Years Earlier, He Had Forfeited His Legal Status When He Returned To Cuba To Look For Work In 1959, Shortly After The Revolution, And Remained There. He Eventually Got A Job As A Bookkeeper In The Transportation Ministry And Remained Until He Felt The Situation Had Become Untenable. He Asked For Vacation Time, And When His Bosses Granted It, He Fled To Miami." "When Mr. Garcia landed in Miami in 1962, Cold War paranoia was at its peak and American officials were on high alert for Cuban spies who might be trying to enter the country. The Cuban missile crisis was just weeks away. Though Mr. Garcia had been issued a green card when he arrived in Miami six years earlier, he had forfeited his legal status when he returned to Cuba to look for work in 1959, shortly after the revolution, and remained there. He eventually got a job as a bookkeeper in the transportation ministry and remained until he felt the situation had become untenable. He asked for vacation time, and when his bosses granted it, he fled to Miami. During Mr. Garcia's hearing, immigration officials

pressed him for clues about whether he was a Cuban agent. Was he a member of any political party? What did he do for the Castro government? And why did he want to leave when it seemed he had a comfortable life? "You were quite content then to remain in Cuba, is that correct?" a lawyer for the government asks him. No, no," Mr. Garcia tries to assure him, explaining that the creeping oppression of the government made him desperate to get out. "They're watching you every day, and they want to know if you're trying to go out of the country, if you want to come to the United States." He says at the hearing that what made him decide he wanted to leave for the United States to join his wife and seven daughters, one of whom was Oria, Mr. Rubio's now 85-year-old mother, was when Castro confirmed suspicions that he was a Marxist. He insists he never registered with any political party." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

- **"Immigration Law Experts Said That The Government Would Have Been Justified In Deporting Mr. Garcia."** "Immigration law experts said that the government would have been justified in deporting Mr. Garcia. "That is not a temporary trip abroad," said Jeffrey Brauwerman, a former immigration judge in Miami, of Mr. Garcia's 1959 return to Cuba. "He has abandoned his residence. He is not a returning resident and in those days he was properly excludable." Mr. Brauwerman added that any employee of the Castro government would have received additional scrutiny because of the fear that he or she could be a spy. "We looked very carefully at people who worked in Cuba," he said." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)
- **Rubio's Grandfather Was Ultimately Granted Permanent Residency In 1967 Under The Cuban Adjustment Act.** "For years after he was allowed back into the United States, Mr. Garcia's legal status would remain unresolved. His designation as a parolee meant he would not have to leave. But he did not know whether he would ever get a green card. That did not come until almost exactly five years to the day after he was stopped in Miami. He filled out a form specifically designed for Cubans, who were granted special status for residency under the Cuban Adjustment Act of 1966. He listed his occupation as "receiving public assistance from Cuban refugee program." In the thumbnail black-and-white picture attached to the form, he is smiling and wearing a suit. His permanent residency was stamped "approved" on Sept. 13, 1967." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)
    - **"Pedro Victor's Legal Status Would Remain Unresolved For Years. Technically He Was Living In The United States Without Permission."** "Pedro Victor's legal status would remain unresolved for years. Technically he was living in the United States without permission. In 1966, though, the legal climate officially changed in his favor. In November of that year the Cuban Adjustment Act was put in place, allowing Cubans who had been admitted into the United States since January 1, 1959, to be granted permanent residency after being in the United States for one year. The next summer Pedro Victor returned to the immigration bureaucracy to ask, once again, to become a permanent resident. The photograph that accompanied his application is a tipoff that he was more upbeat about his prospects. His mouth, set so grimly when he was stopped at the airport five years earlier, spreads into an impish smile. He looks like he's about to laugh. His cheeks have even filled out a bit. The form he filled out states that he had been a Cuban refugee since February 1965. Refugee status may have been

> granted retroactively, Yates suggested. On September 13, 1967, the signature of Robert L. Woytych, the district director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, was stamped at a cockeyed angle on a sparse government form. The date stamp accompanying his signature strays over the previously blank line on the form, almost obscuring the numbers. But the meaning is clear—application approved." (*The Washington Post*, 6/17/12)

Rubio, Who Has Recounted A Close Relationship With His Grandfather, Is Now Known To Support Policies That Would Have Prevented His Grandfather's Entry. "As he campaigns for president, Mr. Rubio, a Florida senator, says that the United States cannot accept refugees from Syria and Iraq because of the potential security risk. More broadly, he has called for a tightening of immigration law so that if the United States cannot identify with 100 percent certainty who immigrants are and why they want to enter, he says, "We're not going to let you in." But under the stricter screening he now supports, his grandfather would most likely have been deported, depriving him of knowing the man he has called his mentor and closest boyhood friend. "I learned at his feet, relied on his counsel and craved his respect," the senator wrote in his 2012 memoir, almost 30 years after Mr. Garcia died. "I still do." Despite Mr. Garcia's insistence that he was fleeing oppression, immigration officials raised suspicions that he might harbor communist sympathies, the records reveal. That charge, had they pursued it, could have led to a conclusion that he was a national security threat. (Details of Mr. Garcia's immigration odyssey were reported in 2012 by Manuel Roig-Franzia in his book "The Rise of Marco Rubio.")" (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

- **Rubio, Who Was Known To Have Been Close To His Grandfather, Was Deeply Affected By His Death In 1984.** "Ultimately it may have been pity for Mr. Garcia's physical condition that swayed immigration officials. Five feet 6 inches and just 120 pounds, Mr. Garcia had injured a leg in an accident and suffered from a number of ailments. Medical records show he had polio, scoliosis and signs of emphysema. He kept a three-cigar-a-day habit well into his old age. Mr. Garcia's death in 1984 fell especially hard on a 13-year-old Marco. Mr. Rubio writes vividly of finding his grandfather on the floor of their home in Las Vegas after a bad fall. When the paramedics came and transported him to the hospital, Marco accompanied him, acting as his translator. When his grandfather passed away soon after — he had long suffered from bladder cancer — Marco fell apart. He started flunking exams. He quit his football team. To this day, Mr. Rubio still invokes on the campaign trail the most important lesson he says his grandfather taught him: not to squander the opportunities his parents created for him through their sacrifice. Mr. Garcia's admiration for Ronald Reagan is the reason Mr. Rubio says he became a Republican. There is an entire chapter devoted to him in the senator's memoir called, affectionately, "Papá." Mr. Rubio said that refugee policy, even today, cannot be hard-and-fast and that some exceptions need to be made for people who are obviously no threat. "If it's a widow, or somebody in their 70s," he said in the interview, "common sense applies.'" (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

- **"In An Interview, Mr. Rubio Acknowledged That Some Would See A Conflict Between The Stricter Immigration And Refugee Policies He Supports And His Grandfather's Experience."** "In an interview, Mr. Rubio acknowledged that some would see a conflict between the stricter immigration and refugee policies he supports

and his grandfather's experience. Immigration records also show that other members of Mr. Rubio's family — two aunts and an uncle — were admitted as refugees. But Mr. Rubio said the difference between then and now is how much more sophisticated foreign infiltrators like the Islamic State have become, and how dangerous they are. "I recognize that's a valid point," the senator said, "But what you didn't have was a widespread effort on behalf of Fidel Castro to infiltrate into the United States killers who were going to detonate weapons and kill people." "Times have changed," he said. "Policies have to change. If there's a conflict there, I think that's just a reality." Mr. Rubio is not alone among the Republican presidential candidates in demanding a more vigilant refugee vetting process. So has Senator Ted Cruz of Texas, whose own father left Cuba. And Donald J. Trump has called for stopping immigration of Muslims altogether." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

Controversy – Rubio's Additional Relatives' Immigration Difficulties

"Immigration Records Also Show That Other Members Of Mr. Rubio's Family — Two Aunts And An Uncle — Were Admitted As Refugees." "In an interview, Mr. Rubio acknowledged that some would see a conflict between the stricter immigration and refugee policies he supports and his grandfather's experience. Immigration records also show that other members of Mr. Rubio's family — two aunts and an uncle — were admitted as refugees. But Mr. Rubio said the difference between then and now is how much more sophisticated foreign infiltrators like the Islamic State have become, and how dangerous they are." (*The New York Times*, 3/6/16)

Family Issues – Ties To Drug Dealing And Criminal Activity

Controversy – Rubio Brother-In-Law Orlando Cicilia: Drug Dealer

In 1987, Rubio's Brother-In-Law Orlando Cicilia Was Arrested And Sentenced For Charges Stemming From Cocaine Dealing "In One Of The Biggest Drug Cases Of Miami's Baroque Cocaine-Cowboys Era." "On Dec. 16, 1987, a teenager named Marco Rubio arrived home from school in West Miami to find his mother in anguish. Earlier that day, federal drug agents raided a house a few miles away that his brother-in-law, Orlando Cicilia, shared with Rubio's older sister, Barbara. Cicilia, a large, sturdily built Cuban immigrant, had played an intimate role in Rubio's early life. But as the future senator from Florida was finishing high school and preparing to go to college, his brother-in-law's illicit career as a cocaine dealer was exposed in a major trial. Cicilia was eventually sentenced to a lengthy prison term in one of the biggest drug cases of Miami's baroque cocaine-cowboys era. Rubio, who was 16 at the time of the arrest, does not mention the ordeal as he runs for president, casting his family's Cuban American immigrant story as the embodiment of the American Dream." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

Records Reveal "That Cicilia Was A Central Figure In The Smuggling Operation At The Same Time That He Was Integrated In The Life Of The Rubio Family." "There is no evidence that Rubio or his parents were aware of Cicilia's drug dealing, and Rubio's sister was not suspected of any crime. But a deep look at those turbulent years — drawing on previously unreported Drug Enforcement Administration field reports and grand jury testimony, interviews

with federal task force agents, and the senator's writings — reveals that Cicilia was a central figure in the smuggling operation at the same time that he was integrated in the life of the Rubio family." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

- **"Cicilia Hired Rubio To Wash His Dogs, Giving The Football-Obsessed Teen Money To Buy Tickets To Miami Dolphins Games."** "In discussing Cicilia, Rubio focuses primarily on happy occasions. Rubio's fondest childhood memories were formed at a Cuban-style Christmas celebration that Cicilia and his sister hosted for the extended family. Cicilia hired Rubio to wash his dogs, giving the football-obsessed teen money to buy tickets to Miami Dolphins games. Rubio declined to be interviewed. His spokesman, Todd Harris, said Rubio "was just 16 at the time of the arrest and views this as a private family matter involving events that occurred almost 30 years ago." Initially, Rubio declined to answer written questions about whether Orlando Cicilia ever provided financial support to him or his family, or if he took any steps to help secure the early release of his brother-in-law from federal prison. Harris sent an email after this story was published online Saturday night saying that Rubio did not help Cicilia win early release. Harris did not address the financial support question. Orlando and Barbara Cicilia did not respond to interview requests. Harris said the Cicilias are "private citizens who do not want in any way to seek the spotlight, and we are going to respect that.'" (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

"Cicilia Served As The "Front Man" In The Drug Ring Headed By Mario Tabraue, A Kingpin Who Ran An Exotic-Animals Business And Kept Spotted Leopards On The Walled Grounds Of His Mansion, According To Interviews And Court Records." "While the case was widely covered at the time, many details of Cicilia's top-level role in the smuggling operation have not been previously reported, in part because they were stored in court files that were antiquated and difficult to access, as well as in remote archives. Cicilia served as the "front man" in the drug ring headed by Mario Tabraue, a kingpin who ran an exotic-animals business and kept spotted leopards on the walled grounds of his mansion, according to interviews and court records. Cicilia looked and sounded the part, wearing paisley suits and rakishly calling cocaine "a pretty thing," according to court records and interviews with lead investigators. The depiction of Cicilia's criminal activities that emerges in those interviews and records goes well beyond the brief description offered by Rubio in his 2012 memoir. In the book, "An American Son," Rubio refers vaguely to Cicilia's involvement "in a criminal enterprise" without mentioning the scope of the drug ring. Rubio, who had moved with his parents back to Miami from Las Vegas more than two years before the arrest, writes poignantly about the arrest's effect on his sister and parents. But he plays down its impact on him personally, noting that his "family's troubles didn't diminish my enthusiasm for the upcoming football season.'" (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

- **"In 1983, Cicilia Joined The Cocaine-Smuggling Operation Led By Tabraue, According To Prosecutors, Investigators And Federal Witnesses."** "That year was pivotal in the life of Rubio's brother-in-law. In 1983, Cicilia joined the cocaine-smuggling operation led by Tabraue, according to prosecutors, investigators and federal witnesses. At that point, Tabraue had a booming drug business, according to law enforcement officials who tracked him. Tabraue's drug ring had been populated by thugs known for their ruthlessness; some carried pistols in briefcases. Prosecutors believed that

a member of Tabraue's crew had killed Larry Nash, an undercover informant for what was then the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, in 1980 and disposed of his body by dismembering it with a circular saw and burning it in a horse trough filled with charcoal. Nash's body was never found; a jury later decided that Tabraue had committed an act of racketeering by helping to dispose of the informant's corpse. What began as a marijuana-import operation in the late 1970s had blossomed into the far more lucrative business of distributing kilos of cocaine smuggled into South Florida from Colombia. During operation from 1976 to 1986, the ring moved half-a-million pounds of marijuana and 200 pounds of cocaine worth an estimated $75 million. "It was a very large operation," said Delbert Woodburn, a Miami-Dade narcotics detective who investigated Tabraue in the late 1970s and early 1980s. "Planes from Colombia were coming into the Bahamas and the Keys, landing at small airports, dropping drugs into the Everglades.'" (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

- **"Once Cicilia Joined, He Became The "Front Man," Insulating Tabraue By Handing Over Drugs To Buyers And Coordinating Shipments Around The Country, According To Interviews, DEA Field Reports And Grand Jury Testimony Obtained By The Washington Post."** "Once Cicilia joined, he became the "front man," insulating Tabraue by handing over drugs to buyers and coordinating shipments around the country, according to interviews, DEA field reports and grand jury testimony obtained by The Washington Post. As the business flourished, Cicilia took on the appearance of the quintessential Miami underworld hotshot, donning sunglasses and wearing his paisley suit sleeves rolled up. It was as if he'd walked off a "Miami Vice" TV set, Larry A. Loveless, the lead DEA agent in the investigation, said in a recent interview. Law enforcement officials say Cicilia was getting rich. "Mario was the kingpin, and Orlando was his second in command," said Michael Fisten, a homicide detective who worked on the case and is writing a book about it. "He always had large amounts of cash on him." Cicilia worked out of Tabraue's business in southwest Miami, Zoological Imports Unlimited, which agents called "the pet store," DEA field reports say." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

- **"Cicilia Was The Go-To Man For The Operation's Cocaine Transactions, Whether They Involved A Few Ounces Or Multiple Kilos."** "Cicilia handled the inventory for Tabraue, coordinated shipments around the country and collected the money, according to DEA field reports and court records. Sometimes he would stash the cocaine at his home. During one undercover buy, Cicilia "stated that he had to go home to get the cocaine, and would return with the cocaine to the pet store," a DEA report says. DEA agents installed a listening device at the pet store and tracked calls made to and from Cicilia's home phone. Their informant wore a wire during his conversations with Cicilia and Tabraue. As the DEA agents recorded the conversations, one thing became clear: Cicilia was the go-to man for the operation's cocaine transactions, whether they involved a few ounces or multiple kilos. In 101 pages of DEA field reports and sworn statements obtained by The Post, Cicilia is named 147 times. Cicilia used code words for -cocaine buys: "little birds" for ounces, "big birds" for kilos. He boasted that the cocaine offered by the Tabraue ring was some of the best on the street. "Pure rock," Cicilia called it. A pound sold for $15,000; a kilo, or 2.2 pounds, went for as much as $28,000." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

"On Feb. 6, 1989, The Jury Convicted Tabraue, Cicilia And Five Other Men. Tabraue Got 100 Years In Prison But Would Be Released Early In 2003 After Serving 14 Years. Cicilia Received 35 Years, The Second-Longest Sentence, And The Jury Found Him Responsible For $15 Million In Drug Sales. The Money Has Never Been Found." "Jurors heard evidence about drug deals Cicilia was involved in during 1986, but prosecutors and witnesses said he had joined Tabraue's gang in 1983. Cicilia's attorney tried to persuade jurors that he was not engaged in the drug business. They didn't buy it. On Feb. 6, 1989, the jury convicted Tabraue, Cicilia and five other men. Tabraue got 100 years in prison but would be released early in 2003 after serving 14 years. Cicilia received 35 years, the second-longest sentence, and the jury found him responsible for $15 million in drug sales. The money has never been found. While the case played out, Rubio saw the corrosive effects of crime up close. His sister yearned for company. Once, she invited him for pizza and a movie, but he turned her down because he was busy socializing with high school friends — a decision he would later regret. "Barbara was lonely, and I avoided her," Rubio wrote. A few days later, Rubio came home late. His sister, who was pregnant, was curled up on the foldout sofa in his parents' living room with her young son, Landy." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

"In The Years That Followed The Arrest, The Cicilia And Rubio Families Have Remained Deeply Intertwined — Personally, Financially, Politically And Emotionally. Rubio's Staff Complained Vehemently When Cicilia's Long-Forgotten Case Was The Subject Of A 2011 Report On The Spanish-Language Television Network Univision." "In the years that followed the arrest, the Cicilia and Rubio families have remained deeply intertwined — personally, financially, politically and emotionally. Rubio's staff complained vehemently when Cicilia's long-forgotten case was the subject of a 2011 report on the Spanish-language television network Univision. Orlando and Barbara Cicilia remained married throughout his 12-year prison term. Cicilia, now 58, and his wife live in Rubio's childhood home with the senator's mother, Oriales Rubio, whom the Republican candidate mentions frequently on the campaign trail. Property records show that Rubio's parents added the names of Orlando and Barbara Cicilia to the home's deed in 2002, two years after Cicilia was released from prison." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

- **"When Rubio's Senate Campaign Was Looking For Office Space, It Was Cicilia, Now A Real Estate Agent, Who Helped To Find A Location, According To A Friend Of Both Men. Cicilia Has Had No Further Troubles With The Law, According To A Review Of Court Records."** (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)
- **"Rubio, Now 44, Is Close To Cicilia's Sons, Daniel And Orlando, The Latter Nicknamed "Landy"; Like Members Of His Immediate Family, They Call Rubio "Tony," An Americanized Version Of His Middle Name, Antonio."** "Rubio, now 44, is close to Cicilia's sons, Daniel and Orlando, the latter nicknamed "Landy"; like members of his immediate family, they call Rubio "Tony," an Americanized version of his middle name, Antonio. Rubio-affiliated PACs and his campaigns, including his presidential operation, have paid more than $130,000 to his nephews over the past decade, with the bulk of that going to Landy Cicilia's video and consulting companies, according to financial disclosures and filings. Harris said Landy Cicilia has shot some of the campaign's most popular videos, including a fantasy-football piece that has gotten

50,000 YouTube views. The Cicilia sons did not respond to requests for comment. On the night of Rubio's greatest political triumph — his 2010 Senate victory — it was Landy Cicilia who drove Rubio to the elegant Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Fla., for his celebration. On stage that night, with confetti cascading down, music blaring and a national television audience looking on, a graying man stood behind Rubio. He was a man with a troubled past: Orlando Cicilia." (*The Washington Post*, 12/12/15)

"When Marco Rubio Was Majority Whip Of The Florida House Of Representatives, He Used His Official Position To Urge State Regulators To Grant A Real Estate License To His Brother-In-Law, A Convicted Cocaine Trafficker Who Had Been Released From Prison 20 Months Earlier, According To Records Obtained By The Washington Post." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)

- **"In July 2002, Rubio Sent A Letter On His Official Statehouse Stationery To The Florida Division Of Real Estate, Recommending Orlando Cicilia "For Licensure Without Reservation.'"** 'In July 2002, Rubio sent a letter on his official statehouse stationery to the Florida Division of Real Estate, recommending Orlando Cicilia "for licensure without reservation." The letter, obtained by The Washington Post under the Florida Public Records Act, offers a glimpse of Rubio using his growing political power to assist his troubled brother-in-law and provides new insight into how the young lawmaker intertwined his personal and political lives." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)
- **"Rubio Did Not Disclose In The Letter That Cicilia Was Married To His Sister, Barbara, Or That The Former Cocaine Dealer Was Living At The Time In The Same West Miami Home As Rubio's Parents. He Wrote That He Had Known Cicilia "For Over 25 Years," Without Elaborating."** "Rubio did not disclose in the letter that Cicilia was married to his sister, Barbara, or that the former cocaine dealer was living at the time in the same West Miami home as Rubio's parents. He wrote that he had known Cicilia "for over 25 years," without elaborating. Rubio has avoided discussing Cicilia's case in detail and has declined to answer questions about his relationship with his brother-in-law. Earlier this month, prior to The Post publishing an article about Cicilia's case, Rubio declined to answer a written question about whether he had helped win the approval of his brother-in-law's real estate license. Rubio also declined to say whether he or his family received financial assistance from Cicilia, who was convicted in a high-profile 1989 trial of distributing $15 million worth of cocaine. The federal government seized Cicilia's home; the money has never been found." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)
    - **"Danielle Brian, Executive Director Of The Project On Government Oversight, A Government Watchdog Group In Washington, Said Rubio's Role Concerned Her."** "Danielle Brian, executive director of the Project on Government Oversight, a government watchdog group in Washington, said Rubio's role concerned her. "Someone who serves their time should be a productive member of society, and it's important for families to help each other, but it's wrong to use your public office for personal or private gain," Brian said. By not disclosing his relationship, Rubio withheld a key piece of information from the real estate board, Brian added. "The general rule of thumb I apply to conflicts of interest is, if you can't eliminate them, you need to manage them by

disclosing the conflict," she said. "I'm uncomfortable that he didn't acknowledge the conflict." Rubio, a Republican who represents Florida in the U.S. Senate, was a 16-year-old high school junior in 1987 when Cicilia was arrested in one of the largest drug cases in Florida history. There has never been any evidence that Rubio or his family knew that Cicilia was dealing cocaine, although Drug Enforcement Administration surveillance records show Cicilia stored cocaine from the drug ring at his home, a few miles away from where Rubio and his parents lived." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)

- **"Three Years Later, When Rubio Was Looking For A New Home, He Turned To The Real Estate Agent In The Family To Help Him Arrange The Purchase: Orlando Cicilia."** "At the suggestion of an official in the Florida Division of Real Estate, Cicilia asked for his application to be considered at a hearing of the Real Estate Commission in July 2002. Along with his request, he sent three recommendation letters. One was from a real estate executive who said he had known him for 30 years; another was from his boss at the food sales company, who described him as "efficient, punctual, meticulous in his work and in every way a model employee." The third was from the majority whip of the Florida House of Representatives — his brother-in-law. "I have known Mr. Cicilia for over 25 years," Rubio wrote in a July 1, 2002, letter to an official in the Real Estate Division of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. "I recommend him for licensure without reservation. If I can be of further assistance on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me directly." Cicilia got his hearing. A letter from the Real Estate Division let him know that his application was placed on the agenda for the Real Estate Commission's July 17, 2002, meeting. The next day, he was approved. He was officially a real estate agent. Three years later, when Rubio was looking for a new home, he turned to the real estate agent in the family to help him arrange the purchase: Orlando Cicilia." (*The Washington Post*, 12/30/15)

Financial Issues (Additional Matters)

Overall – Poor Financial Decision Making/ Financial Struggles

"Rubio Has Had Long-Standing Struggles With Money." "Rubio has had long-standing struggles with money. When he entered the Florida legislature in 2000, he was making $72,000 a year as a lawyer at a Miami law firm. But he pegged his net worth at zero in his first three required annual financial disclosure forms." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

- **NOTE: In 2015, Trump Criticized Rubio's Financial Decision Making Noting "He Has A Very Bad Record Of Finances, With His Houses, He Certainly Lives Above His Means, There Is No Question About That."** "Over the years Rubio has made contradictory statements when challenged about his finances, and his opponents have suggested that someone who struggles to manage their own budget shouldn't have control over the U.S. economy. "He has a very bad record of finances, with his houses, he certainly lives above his means, there is no question about that," Trump said this week. But Salon's Simon Maloy argues that portraying Rubio as bad with his finances just gives him an opportunity to note that he's not wealthy, and understands the struggles of everyday Americans. "The damning part of all this is that he abused resources made available to him as Speaker," says Maloy. "I'm not especially bothered that Rubio can't balance his checkbook, but I do care that he's a corruptible sneak." So far, Rubio has

successfully pushed the former narrative, but with more information forthcoming, his opponents may be able to put a more nefarious spin on his money troubles." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

According To Financial Disclosures In 2000, Rubio "Had $150,000 In Student-Loan Debt, $30,000 In Other Debt, And A Net Worth Of Zero." "Lots. According to financial disclosures, shortly after he was elected to the Florida Legislature in 2000, he had $150,000 in student-loan debt, $30,000 in other debt, and a net worth of zero." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

- **Rubio's Debt Problems Grew Worse By 2002.** "By 2002, he was making more money, drawing in $96,000 at another law firm, plus a $28,702 legislative salary. But his balance sheet looked even worse. His net worth had sunk below zero — to negative $103,000." (*The Washington Post*, 11/7/15)

Rubio Has Exhibited Poor Personal Financial Decision-Making While In Politics Including "Leasing A $50,000 Audi Q7, Saving Relatively Little, And Using The $800,000 Advance From His First Book To Buy" A Fishing Boat. "Lots. According to financial disclosures, shortly after he was elected to the Florida Legislature in 2000, he had $150,000 in student-loan debt, $30,000 in other debt, and a net worth of zero. The Times recently detailed Rubio's questionable financial decisions since then, which include leasing a $50,000 Audi Q7, saving relatively little, and using the $800,000 advance from his first book to buy what the paper called "$80,000 for a luxury speedboat" (later his campaign informed the media that it's actually a modest fishing boat). The Rubios' financial situation has improved in recent years, thanks largely to proceeds from Rubio's two books. He's said he paid off his student loans shortly after becoming a senator with money he earned from An American Son." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Debt And Student Loans

In 2022, Rubio Said "He Understands The Issues With Student Loans In The US Because He Too Had $100,000 In Student Debt Before Getting Elected To Congress And Writing A Book That Allowed Him To Pay It Off." "Republican Sen. Marco Rubio said Saturday he understands the issues with student loans in the US because he too had $100,000 in student debt before getting elected to Congress and writing a book that allowed him to pay it off. The Florida senator appeared on Fox News' "One Nation with Brian Kilmeade" to discuss his concerns with President Joe Biden's plan to cancel up to $20,000 in student-loan debt for federal borrowers making under $125,000 a year. Rubio said he agrees student loans need to be reformed and that he too was burdened for years with thousands of dollars of student debt. "I owed over $100,000 in students loans," Rubio said. "The day I got elected to the Senate I had over $100,000 still in student loans that I was able to pay off because I wrote a book. And from that money I was able to pay it, if not I'd still be paying it.'" (Business Insider, 8/28/22)

- **VIDEO: Rubio: "The Day I Got Elected In The Senate I Had Over $100k In Student Loans That I Was Able To Pay Off Because I Wrote A Book."** (Fox News, 8/27/22)



(Fox News, 8/27/22)

Rubio Was Only Able To Pay Off His +$100,00 Student Loan Debt By Receiving A $800,000 Book Advance From Penguin Group In 2012 For His Memoir. "Rubio graduated from the University of Florida in 1993 and got his law degree from the University of Miami Law School in 1996. He served in local and state offices, including as Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, before getting elected to the Senate in 2010. His book, "An American Son: A Memoir," was published in 2013. Financial disclosures showed Rubio received an $800,000 book advance from the publisher, Penguin Group, in 2012, the Tampa Bay Times reported. The disclosures also showed Rubio no longer reported having $100,000 in student debt. Rubio's annual salary as a US senator has been $174,000 since taking office in 2011, with his income boosted significantly by book deals and royalties, as is common for US politicians. He published a second book, "American Dreams: Restoring Economic Opportunity for Everyone," in 2015. It's unclear how large a book advance Rubio received for that book, but the Associated Press reported in 2016 that 2012 had been his most lucrative year, suggesting it was less than for his first book." (Business Insider, 8/28/22)

Liquidation Of Retirement Account

In 2014, Rubio Liquidated Most Of His Retirement Accounts Likely Costing Him $24,000 In Taxes And Penalties. "He liquidated most of his retirement savings last year, though financial experts say that's usually a very bad idea. According to the AP, his financial-disclosure statement shows that he sold six retirement funds in September 2014 for $68,000. The New York Times reports the move likely cost Rubio about $24,000 in taxes and penalties, and at the time he had between $100,000 and $250,000 in a checking account, between $50,000 and $100,000 in a money-market account, and he'd signed a seven-figure book deal." (New York Magazine, 11/6/15)

Religious Issues

Previous Mormon Faith And Background

2012: "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio Credits His Short-Lived Time As A Mormon For Providing A Moral Compass In His Youth, Though He Also Discloses For The First Time His Family's Struggles With The Constraints Of The Faith And His Eventual Return To The Catholic Fold." "Florida Sen. Marco Rubio credits his short-lived time as a Mormon for providing a moral compass in his youth, though he also discloses for the first time his family's struggles with the constraints of the faith and his eventual return to the Catholic fold. In his new autobiography, An American Son, available Tuesday, the Florida Republican candidly discusses the three years he spent as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and lauds the Utah-based faith for helping his Cuban-immigrant mother and him when they moved from Miami to Las Vegas when he was a grade-schooler. "All in all, the Mormon church provided the sound moral structure my mother had wanted for us, and a circle of friends from stable, God-fearing families," Rubio writes in his book. "When we left the church a few years later, mostly at my instigation, we did so with gratitude for its considerable contribution to our happiness in those years.'" (*Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/18/12)

In 2012, "Rubio — A Potential Running Mate To Presumptive Presidential Nominee Mitt Romney, A Mormon — Talks For The First Time In His Memoir About Converting To The Faith, A Family Trip To Provo And Salt Lake City To Visit Temple Sites And How Seriously He Took His New Religion." "Rubio — a potential running mate to presumptive presidential nominee Mitt Romney, a Mormon — talks for the first time in his memoir about converting to the faith, a family trip to Provo and Salt Lake City to visit temple sites and how seriously he took his new religion. "In contrast to my parents, I immersed myself in LDS theology, and understood it as well as an 8-year-old mind can," Rubio writes. "Although my school grades were never impressive, I was a voracious reader, and I studied church literature and other sources of information to learn all I could about the church's teachings." Rubio's journey to Mormonism began when his family settled in "fascinatingly strange" Las Vegas in 1979. The family's new home, on a cul-de-sac in a working-class neighborhood, was right across the street from his new friends, the Thiriot boys, who were Latter-day Saints. "They were a close-knit family who were always doing things together," Rubio says. "They represented the kind of safe, respectable family life my parents wanted for us." The faith's wholesomeness, its values and the community closeness that came with it drove Rubio, his mother, Oriala, and his sister, Veronica, to baptism. His father, Mario, didn't convert, Rubio writes. Bryan Thiriot, a Republican consultant and legislative chairman of a St. George district, recalls growing up with Rubio, who was also known as Tony, a shortened version of his middle name, Anthony. "We were very close friends growing up there," Thiriot recalls. The two attended school together, sat by each other in church, teamed up on camping trips and competed in Pinewood Derbies. "I would say this straight up, Marco is a very religious man," Thiriot told The Salt Lake Tribune, noting long conversations the two had about faith and politics. "We actually had conversations about Social Security." On occasion, Rubio's chatting got to be too much. "He never stopped talking. He was a constant talker," Thiriot says. "Sometimes he talked so much that he'd get in trouble at school." While LDS values and morals drew the Rubios to the faith, Rubio says, it was

the religion's ban on tobacco, alcohol and coffee that made staying tough. "Some of the church's rules were difficult for my parents, especially my father, to abide by," Rubio says, adding that his dad, who never joined the LDS Church, had smoked since age 13 and worked as a bartender." (*Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/18/12)

Rubio Notes Having Been Formally Baptized Into The Mormon Church. "My parents, especially my mother, attributed the neighborhood's wholesomeness to the influence of the Mormon Church. The neighborhood church sponsored a Cub Scout pack, father-&-son camping trips, and various other family activities. Mormons are encouraged by the church to recruit converts to the faith. I had been baptized in the Catholic Church, and when I was very young had regularly attended Mass with my mother. But ours had not been a very Catholic home for some time. By the time I had entered grade school, weekly Mass was no longer part of our family routine, and I had yet to receive the Church's sacraments. I don't believe my mother ever really understood Mormon theology, but her intense desire to be part of a community with upstanding values and caring, cohesive families made her an eager convert. My mother, sister and I were baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints, and began attending Sunday services at the church next door to my school." (An American Son, by Marco Rubio, p. 38 Jun 19, 2012)

"Eventually, A Friend From Rubio's Grade School Who Was Catholic Piqued The Future Senator's Interest, And He Began Learning About The Faith His Mother Grew Up In. He Said Leaving The Mormon Religion Was His Decision." "Rubio says he chided his father for slinging booze, but also noted that Cuban coffee was a staple that neither parent would give up. Eventually, a friend from Rubio's grade school who was Catholic piqued the future senator's interest, and he began learning about the faith his mother grew up in. He said leaving the Mormon religion was his decision. "We left the Mormon church with nothing but admiration for the place that had been our first spiritual home in Las Vegas and had been so generous to us," Rubio writes. "I still feel that way." Another book out Tuesday, The Rise of Marco Rubio, by The Washington Post's Manuel Roig-Franzia, also sheds light on Rubio's time as a Mormon. Roig-Franzia writes that Rubio and his cousins adored the Osmond family and Rubio, his sister and their cousin Michelle performed songs from Donny and Marie. The book's author also notes that "faith was a central tenet of Rubio's life" and noted that a young Rubio had an unusual control over his family's religious identity, helping bring them to the Mormon faith and then back to Catholicism. "He really convinced his whole family to switch religions," says cousin Michelle Denis. One thing is clear, Roig-Franzia writes, the Rubio family never asked to be removed from the LDS rolls, "meaning they may still be counted as Mormons by the church.'" (*Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/18/12)